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THURSDAY JANUARY 16TH, 2020

Postcard sent from war camp 103 years ago is finally delivered - page five

Fears expressed that council could lose £1.2m - page four

Work starts on £634k village hall project

See the full story and more photos on page six.

Inquiry into Tory MP was 'a sham' says rape victim

AN investigation launched to find out whether Vale MP Alun Cairns knew about his former aide's role in collapsing a rape trial has been branded a "sham" by the victim.

Ross England, who used to work for Mr Cairns, caused the trial, held in April 2018, to crumble after making claims about the rape victim's sexual history – despite an agreement it was not admissible.

Mr Cairns, who quit his job as Secretary of State for Wales amid the rape trial row, denied knowing about Mr England's role in sabotaging the case until the story broke late last year.

But BBC journalists unearthed an email sent to Mr Cairns in August 2018 – four months before Mr England was selected to contest the Vale of Glamorgan assembly seat – about the trial collapse.

Mr Cairns, who was re-elected as the Vale's MP in last December's election, left his job in Boris Johnson's cabinet and a ministerial investigation was launched with the findings, revealed after the election, clearing him of wrongdoing.

The rape victim, who cannot be named for legal reasons, told Victoria Derbyshire's BBC show this week that the investigator made no attempt to speak to her.

She said: "The whole thing feels like a sham. What kind of investigation doesn't contact the person who is most affected?"

"It makes me question how seriously it was actually carried out. This was a deflection until after the general election, not a genuine investigation into Alun's truthfulness."

Story continued on page three

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Readers' Letters

Please keep your letters BRIEF and address them to: The Editor, at Glamorgan GEM Ltd, Graig House, 53 Eastgate, Cowbridge CF71 7EL or email editorial@glamorgan-gem.co.uk

• Letters and e-mails MUST include your FULL address, contact telephone number. We reserve the right to edit all letters. We do NOT accept anonymous mail.

Climate change goes back longer than you think

I READ with interest Graham Vodden's article about climate change in last week's GEM and I am of a similar opinion.

Looking back over 100 years or so, there were hundreds of factories churning out smoke etc, from chimneys, not only this country but in the USA for example.

Then came the Second World War – even more industrial output with thousands of tanks, aircraft and all the fuel used up by them over five years of war. There were the thousands of warplanes in the sky day and night, plus all the fuel used up every day by tanks and military vehicles.

People sat in houses, many large ones heated with coal fires.

In the 1950s, car ownership came a reality for thousands, especially the US with big V8 engines all on leaded petrol.

I can remember Mum and Dad taking us on holiday in the 1950s in large queues going down to the West Country, all vehicles on leaded petrol.

We can do our bit, but I think it's a global change that is taking place.

Anthony Atkins, Sully.

Abolition of Barry Town Council?

I READ with interest Karl James Langford's view on Barry Town Council and its insignificance, and why it and its sister councils (perhaps with the exception of Llantwit Major Town Council) should be abolished.

Perhaps it's not the town or community councils that should go, but the Vale of Glamorgan – you could easily find good reason to get rid of it.

Poor planning, incinerators, projects that go on forever, Boverton culvert, public transport – I could go on.

The problem with community councils as they are now is that they have too few powers compared to some places that I have lived in, such as Dodge City, which has a population of 26,000. Dodge City's commission has a membership of five, with responsibilities for everything including utilities.

I know people were not happy with the suggestion that the Vale and Cardiff would be merged in a 'return of South Glamorgan.'

What we need is real reform, with community councils given more power and responsibility, perhaps with a smaller membership and real control over planning and local transport provision. People need to get off their backsides and get involved in running their own communities, instead of writing whining letters to the newspapers.

Michael Alan Cridland, St Athan

Grateful thanks to those who helped

I WISH, through your paper, to thank all the people who came to my aid on December 19, when I was knocked down by a car on Colcot Road.

Unfortunately, I was too stressed to notice those who were around me and were sheltering me from heavy rain until the ambulance arrived, I know that two paramedics were among the first to help me, followed by several passers by.

I'm afraid I didn't know any of them, apart from my neighbour – who was also of great help – so would you kindly print a big thank you from me.

Fortunately, the accident left me with only cuts and bruises.

Mrs Susan O'Keeffe, Barry.

Barnardo's view on smacking legislation

OUR Assembly Members will soon have the chance to change the law to protect children from physical punishment, improve lives and bring Wales into line with 52 other countries.

Following decades of cross sector campaigning we at Barnardo's Cymru warmly anticipate that AMs will vote to pass the Children (Ending the Defence of Reasonable Punishment) (Wales) Bill on Tuesday, January 28.

It would see Wales following Scotland in bringing an end to an outdated and unhelpful legal loophole which has denied our children the same right to protection from assault as adults have.

Children's rights have been enshrined in law in Wales for almost two decades and our culture of family life and parenting is one where positive parenting approaches are preferred. In 2016, a survey found that 76% of Welsh parents had not smacked their children in the previous six months.

Positive parenting works in guiding and managing children's behaviour, while strengthening rather than undermining family relationships.

In countries where equal protection has already been introduced it has not been uncommon for there to be concerns, including the potential criminalisation of parents, but the fears have proved to be unfounded. This law will simply bring the right to protection from assault in line with that which adults enjoy.

The change will need to be communicated effectively and there must be support in place for those parents who need it. Both will be addressed under this Bill.

We hope we will soon be celebrating an important and landmark legislative change, one which finally makes a clear statement about children's right to protection.

As a Barnardo's Cymru practitioner succinctly put it: "Children will be better protected and by offering different parenting strategies, the benefit will be happier, healthier, better behaved children. That benefit will be passed on to the next generation."

Who of us would not want that?

Sarah Crawley, Director, Barnardo's Cymru

MP was not 'top' Secretary of State

I WRITE in response to Mr Peter Graham-Woolard's letter in The GEM (January 9) and in particular, his claims that Mr Cairns was not only a 'top Secretary of State for Wales' but also 'one of the country's and constituency's very best of MPs'.

Other than the fact that the 'top' Secretary of State appears not to read important emails, I would point to his car crash interview with the Radio 4 'Today' programme on July 31 last year when he was not only factually incorrect about Japanese trade deals but didn't have a clue about future trade deals.

I'd expect rather better from a Government Minister and certainly from one of the 'very best of MPs'. People have very short memories, this is the man who called Italians 'greasy wops' on live radio in 2008 and subsequently resigned as education spokesman.

Of course, your 'independent' newspaper announces a monthly column from Mr Cairns complete with splendid 'GEM' house colour blue framing.

You'd be forgiven for thinking you were reading the Conservative party's in-house publication, complete with horses and hounds, lots of farming news and articles celebrating the amount of subsidies that the loyal, traditionally Conservative-supporting community has secured from the Government.

Stephen Jenkins, Llantwit Major

GEM NOTE: The fact that the Labour Vale AM Jane Hutt also has a monthly column, with a red border, seems to have escaped Mr Jenkins' attention. GEM readers may also be surprised by his contention that a publication containing farming news must therefore be Conservative. We will continue carrying news from both the rural and urban areas of the Vale.

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HIGH TIDE TIMES

The high tides listed in this week's Gem are those in Porthcawl. It should be remembered that along the coast, high tides times will vary. For instance, in Barry the high point will be 20-25 minutes later.

JANUARY 23

Date	Time	Height (metres)
16/01/2020	10.32	9.7
16/01/2020	22.57	9.1
17/01/2020	11.22	9.0
17/01/2020	23.54	8.7
18/01/2020		
18/01/2020	12.21	8.6
19/01/2020	00.57	8.4
19/01/2020	13.29	8.3
20/01/2020	02.11	8.2
20/01/2020	14.45	8.2
21/01/2020	03.24	8.2
21/01/2020	15.57	8.4
22/01/2020	04.31	8.6
22/01/2020	16.56	8.7
23/01/2020	05.24	8.9
23/01/2020	17.49	9.0

While the Gem makes every effort to check the accuracy of tide tables, we recommend that anyone putting out to sea, or walking in an area where they could be cut off, should check with a tide table specific to their location.

The Glamorgan GEM • Contact us...

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Published by: Glamorgan GEM Ltd., Graig House, 53 Eastgate, Cowbridge. CF71 7EL. Printed by TMP Birmingham.

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Rape victim subjected to 'campaign of hatred' from Tory party

Continued from page one

THE rape victim added: "I would've hoped Alun would've used the inquiry as an opportunity to be honest, and it is regretful that he did not.

"Fortunately nobody with an ounce of common sense believes this ludicrous claim that he did not know."

Sir Alex Allan, the Prime Minister's independent adviser who carried out the investigation, said in his report that Mr Cairns hadn't breached the ministerial code, but deemed it "unlikely" that the MP was not told about Mr England's role.

The victim, who worked for Mr Cairns, claimed she was subjected to a "campaign of hatred" from members of the Tory party after reporting the rape to police.

And she claimed Mr Cairns told her she was being "a bit harsh" in pursuing the rape case against attacker James Hackett, who was Mr England's friend.

She said: "The Conservative Party has a lot of work to do to make it a safe environment for young women to work in. I am not saying it's an old boys' club, it's a boys' club. As long as you are male, you'll be fine."

The victim was raped as she slept at a house party hosted by Mr England and his girlfriend Kathryn Kelloway.

"I went to bed, not thinking anything of it, but when I woke up I was being attacked. I thought I could just let this happen, but then something kicked in and I managed to fight him off.

"I ran downstairs and told a friend."

She alleged that Ms Kelloway, on the night of the rape, shouted at police that she was making it up.

The victim explained: "That just set the tone for the next two years. It felt like a complete smear campaign.

"My life was made absolutely miserable.

"They were trying to spread it about that I had slept with certain people and therefore I must have deserved what happened, I must have asked for it."

Ms Kelloway, a Tory councillor in Cardiff, denied any "wrongdoing whatsoever" in media reports.

Hackett was jailed for five years at a later trial and Mr England was suspended as the party's candidate for the Vale.

Mr Cairns said: "The Inquiry was led by cabinet office lawyers and a former permanent secretary to the Treasury, having been one of the UK's most senior and respected civil servants.

"I am extremely sorry for the trauma and suffering the victim has faced. Rape is a heinous crime.

"I believed that my parliamentary staff and I had supported her in a caring and compassionate way throughout. The victim acknowledged this in messages received at the time."

A Welsh Conservative spokesperson said: "We are deeply sorry for the circumstances surrounding the collapse of the trial and the deep distress this must have caused the victim, her family and friends.

"Mr England has been suspended and a full investigation is under way."

Do you have an opinion? Send us your letters

ABOVE: Vale of Glamorgan MP Alun Cairns.

LEFT: Mr Cairns' former aide Ross England.

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Church's support for homelessness charity

EVERY year at its 'Carols by Candlelight' service, Cowbridge United Free Church (CUFC) nominates a local charity and then adds to that collection the whole of the Christmas Day collection.

This year's charity was Emmaus. It was a great privilege to welcome Companions and members of the board to our carol service where Peter Knapp, one of the trustees, spoke about the charity's work and the Emmaus House in Bridgend.

Emmaus South Wales is not like other homelessness charities. They don't just provide a hot meal, or a bed for the night. Instead, they offer a home for as long as it is needed, work experience in one of the social enterprises, funded training opportunities and the chance for the formerly homeless people they support to regroup and get back on their feet.

On Sunday, December 12 in the United Church at our monthly Pizza and Praise evening service, it was a real pleasure to hand over a cheque for £1,000 plus some other donations.

The service was attended by Peter, two Companions (as the community members are called), Teresa the manager of the Cowbridge shop and Julie Raikes, the chair of the trustees in Bridgend.

It is wonderful to be able to support an organisation that not only works with homelessness but further facilitates rehabilitation into work and offers training opportunities too.

If you have any time to spare, Emmaus would very much welcome some volunteers for various roles; please get in touch with them by popping into the Cowbridge shop or by emailing info@emmaussouthwales.org.uk

Rev Heather Weddell

Councillor warns local authority could lose £1.2m

PLAID Cymru Councillor Ian Johnson has warned that the Vale of Glamorgan Council could lose £1.2m this year due to the roll out of Universal Credit in the county, as thousands of claimants go into council rent debt.

Last year there was a substantial increase in council rent arrears rising by nearly £140,000 to just more than £350,000.

However, with Universal Credit being rolled out across the county in the new year, the Vale Council is anticipating a far bigger rise in council rent bad debts, to more than £1.2m in 2020/21.

Cllr Johnson said: "New Universal Credit claimants have to wait five weeks for their first payments, and most people don't have five weeks of money to hand. That brings them into a cycle of debt as they have to choose priorities, and often have to use a foodbank to get by. One of the impacts of that is that council rent arrears are expected to increase quickly.

"Estimates for the new financial year's Housing Revenue Account is that the council will not get six per cent of council house rent payments, so they have made provision of £1.2m for bad debts.

"This is money that will have to be found elsewhere within the budget – and comes as a direct result of the mess made by the Tory Government of Universal Credit.

"The average debt of a resident on Universal Credit is £498 while a resident on existing benefits is only £147. I have asked the Vale Council to confirm that they will not make evictions due to non-payment of council rent as a result of Universal Credit."

A Vale of Glamorgan Council spokesperson said: "To cope with the shift from weekly benefits to Universal Credit, which is paid monthly in arrears, tenants can claim an advance payment. This is then deducted from benefit payments over the next 12 months, helping to reduce the risk of tenants falling into debt.

"Vulnerable tenants and those requiring additional support are further protected from debt through the direct payments system. Currently around 15 per cent of tenants have this system in place, which allows a portion of Universal Credit payments to be made directly to the Council to cover rent costs.

"All tenants moving onto Universal Credit are contacted by a member of the Council's Income team and given extra information and advice about the benefit. They may also receive assistance to open bank accounts or get online.

"So far this year, the Council's Housing Team has been able to secure over £120,000 of additional income for tenants by helping them backdate claims, ensuring the correct benefits are being received, by assisting with appeals and helping secure the best tariffs for utilities.

"Though it is anticipated that Council rent arrears will increase as more tenants migrate to Universal Credit, provision has been made for this within the Housing Revenue Account business plan and evidence suggests arrears will fall back to acceptable levels once tenants adjust to the new system.

"Eviction is only ever considered as a very last resort for rent arrears after a range of support, including the measures listed above, have proved unsuccessful."

CYNGOR BRO MORGANNWG
B4265 (RHAN) ABEROGWR A SOUTHERNDOWN GORCHYMYN CYFYNGIAD CYFLYMDER 30MYA A 40MYA (DIWYGIAD)

1. Hysbysir drwy hyn fod Cyngor Bro Morgannwg wrth arfer ei bwerau dan Adrannau 1, 2 a 84 Deddf Rheoleiddio Traffig Ffyrdd 1984 (fel y'i diwygiwyd) a'r holl bwerau galluogi eraill, yn bwriadu gwneud Gorchymyn a fydd yn gorfodi'r hyn a ddisgrifir yn yr Atodlenni isod. Gellir archwilio manylion llawn y cynigion, gan gynnwys y Gorchymyn arfaethedig a'r Cynllun Rhif:T/19/94, yn y cyfeiriad a nodir isod yn ystod oriau swyddfa arferol
2. Rhaid cyflwyno unrhyw wrthwynebiad sydd gennych i'r cynnig i'r Cyfarwyddwr Amgylchedd a Thai (Cyf: IF901) yn ysgrifenedig erbyn 7 Chwefror 2020 a rhaid nodi sail eich gwrthwynebiad.
3. Rhoddir gwybod i unrhyw un sy'n gwrthwynebu'r Gorchymyn arfaethedig, yn unol â Deddf Llywodraeth Leol (Mynediad at Wybodaeth) 1985, bod rhwymedigaeth gyfreithiol ar y Cyngor hwn i alluogi'r cyhoedd i archwilio unrhyw sylwadau a ddaw i law am y Gorchymyn a gynigir.

Insert into map schedule T6 U6 U5
Diwygio'r Gorchymyn Rheoliadau Traffig canlynol.
Gorchymyn Cyngor Bro Morgannwg (Llwybr B4265 Aberogwr a Southerndown)
(Cyfyngiad Cyflymder 30mya a 40mya) 2002
Diddymu'r paragraff canlynol dan Atodlen 2:
'Ni fydd unrhyw berson yn achosi i unrhyw gerbyd deithio'n gynt na 40mya ar Lwybr B4524.
Aberogwr i Southerndown, o bwynt 30 metr i'r gogledd-dwyrain o'r gyffordd â
Sutton Road, Aberogwr i'r gogledd-ddwyrain am tua 3700 metr
(cedwir y cyfyngiad 30mya presennol)'
Ei newid i'r paragraff canlynol:
'Ni fydd unrhyw berson yn achosi i unrhyw gerbyd deithio'n gynt na 40mya ar Lwybr B4524.
Aberogwr i Southerndown, o bwynt 230 metr i'r gogledd-dwyrain o'r gyffordd â
Sutton Road, Aberogwr i'r gogledd-ddwyrain am tua 1570 metr O bwynt 2400 metr
i'r gogledd-ddwyrain o'r gyffordd â Sutton Road, Aberogwr i'r gogledd-dwyrain am tua 1570
metr (cedwir cyfyngiad 30mya presennol).
Ychwanegu'r paragraff canlynol newydd:
'Ni fydd unrhyw berson yn achosi i unrhyw gerbyd deithio'n gynt na 30mya ar Lwybr B4524.
Aberogwr i Southerndown, o bwynt 1800 metr i'r gogledd-dwyrain o'r gyffordd â
Sutton Road, Aberogwr i'r gogledd-ddwyrain am tua 600 metr
(cedwir y cyfyngiad 30mya presennol)'

Dyddiedig 16 Ionawr 2020.
Cyfarwyddwr yr Amgylchedd a Thai
Cyngor Bro Morgannwg,
The Alps, Gwenfô CF5 6AA

THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL
B4265 (PART) OGMORE BY SEA AND SOUTHERNDOWN
30 MPH AND 40MPH SPEED RESTRICTION (AMENDMENT) ORDER 2020

1. Notice is given that the Vale of Glamorgan Council in exercise of its powers under Sections 1, 2 & 84 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 (as amended) and of all other enabling powers proposes to make an Order the general effect of which is as described in the Schedules below. Full details of the proposals, to include a copy of the proposed Order, and Plan No: T/19/94 may be inspected at the address shown below during normal office hours.
2. Any objection you may have to this proposal must be submitted to the Director of Environment & Housing (Ref: IF901) in writing by 7th February 2020 and must contain the grounds upon which you object.
3. Persons objecting to the proposed Order are advised that in view of the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985 this Council is legally obliged to make any comments received in response to the proposed order open to public inspection.

Insert into map schedule T6 U6 U5

Amend the following Traffic Regulations Order.
The Vale of Glamorgan Council (Route B4265 Ogmore by Sea and Southerndown) (30mph & 40mph Speed Restriction) Order 2002

Revoke the following paragraph under Schedule 2:
'No person shall cause any vehicle to travel at a speed greater than 40 mph on Route B4524 Ogmore by Sea to Southerndown from a point 230 metres north east of its junction with Sutton Road, Ogmore by Sea north eastwards for a distance of approximately 3700 metres (to run contiguous with existing 30mph restrictions)'

Replace with the following paragraph:
No person shall cause any vehicle to travel at a speed greater than 40 mph on Route B4524 Ogmore by Sea to Southerndown from a point 230 metres north east of its junction with Sutton Road, Ogmore by Sea north eastwards for a distance of approximately 1570 metres.
From a point 2400 metres north east of its junction with Sutton Road, Ogmore by Sea north-eastwards for a distance of approximately 1570 metres (to run contiguous with existing 30mph restrictions).

Add the following new paragraph:
No person shall cause any vehicle to travel at a speed greater than 30 mph on Route B4524 Ogmore by Sea to Southerndown from a point 1800 metres north east of its junction with Sutton Road, Ogmore by Sea north eastwards for a distance of approximately 600 metres (to run contiguous with existing 30mph restrictions).

Dated this 16th day of January 2020
Director of Environment & Housing
Vale of Glamorgan Council, The Alps, Wenvoe, CF5 6

Free food distribution in Llantwit

THE Wellbeing Café continues to serve Llantwit Major every Wednesday at the CF61 Centre, Station Road, CF61 1ST from 1pm to 3.30pm, with everyone welcome.

At the café, ReBUILD project volunteers will be distributing free food to local people from Filco, Co-op and Waitrose.

A spokesperson said: "Come along with your carrier bag and help us to reduce end of day food waste whilst getting some lovely food.

"The café will give you space to relax alone or meet other people, whilst enjoying a free cuppa. Take part in learning a new craft or take part in a wellbeing bite-size workshop. A warm welcome awaits you."

For more information on the ReBUILD Project, telephone 01446 741706, or e-mail enquiries@gvs.wales

Send us your stories, photos, letters and sports reports

Prisoner of War's postcard finally makes it home 103 years after being sent

A POSTCARD sent by Corporal Edward Lobb from a Prisoner of War camp in Poland during World War One has finally been delivered.

Catherine Foulkes, the great granddaughter of the Penarth Council officer who was the intended recipient of the postcard, has acquired the correspondence some 103 years after it was sent in 1917.

Ms Foulkes' great grandfather Jonathan Meazey worked for Penarth Council and during World War One, with his wife Kitty, he organised food and clothing parcels for prisoners of war in Germany and Poland.

They sent one parcel with a pre-printed postcard inside to Corporal Edward William Lobb, who had been born in Penarth and grew up in Dock Street, Cogan.

Edward sent the post card back to Jonathan Meazey confirming that he had received the parcel.

The postcard never arrived, and it was only thanks to a former Penarth resident, Vilis Paul Kuksa, that it finally came home.

By chance, Vilis saw the postcard advertised as part of a job lot and contacted Catherine.

She put in a successful bid and so 103 years after being sent, the postcard finally came home!

Ms Foulkes said: "It's a real pleasure to have been reunited with this postcard sent to my great grandfather over 100 years ago. I would now like to show it to descendants of Edward Lobb.

"I know that he married Martha Courtney and they lived at 133 Plassey Street, Penarth. They had two children, Alexandra May, born in 1912, and William John, born in 1919.

"Alexandra married Alfred Ray Dugmore and they also lived in 133 Plassey Street. Alexandra died in 2004 and William John Lobb died in 2001 so the search has ended there.

"If anyone knows the whereabouts of descendants or relatives, please contact me on Catherine_foulkes@me.com or researcher Bruce Wallace at brucewallace.cowin@gmail.com or on 07817 583720.

"Bruce is researching the lives of over 40 Penarth men, including Edward Lobb, who were PoWs in World War One".

ABOVE: Catherine Foulkes with the postcard

RNLI dash to rescue trapped surfer

THE volunteer RNLI crew from Porthcawl launched the charity's Atlantic 85 lifeboat on service for the first time this year on Wednesday afternoon (January 8) to rescue a surfer who had been swept around a headland in a rip current.

The volunteer crew were paged by UK Coastguard at 3.12pm and tasked to the incident alongside the Llantwit Major Coastguard team and the Coastguard Rescue Helicopter.

The surfer was trapped beneath cliffs and the Porthcawl inshore lifeboat, *Rose Of The Shires*, was launched after onlookers from the shore raised the alarm by dialing 999 and asking for the Coastguard.

Chris Missen, helm of Porthcawl Lifeboat said: "As we headed to the location visibility was fairly poor with a sea fog. However, as we arrived on scene the crew spotted the surfer almost immediately, beneath the cliffs.

"Once the surfer saw our lifeboat he re-entered the water and started to paddle out through the surf. The conditions were fairly challenging, with breaking waves of up to two metres but I managed to position the lifeboat in the surf zone, so that the crew could pull the surfer from the water.

"Once we got him safely onboard the surfer told us how he'd been caught in a rip current and swept around the headland.'

Aileen Jones MBE, RNLI Deputy Launch Authority said: "The crew did a great job in difficult conditions. There was a heavy swell and the tide was still incoming, meaning it was time critical as the surfer was trapped beneath the cliffs.

"The RNLI has some great information regarding rip currents and staying safe if surfing through the winter months on its website: RNLI.org."

Fancy a cuppa with a copper?

COME along to Gibbonsdown 'Cuppa with a Copper' held every Monday morning at the Aberaeron HUB, Aberaeron Close between 10am and 12pm.

Gibbonsdown PACT at the Residents' Board Office, Coychurch Rise, Barry on Tuesday, January 21 at 10.30am.

Meet Your Local Officer at Llantwit Major Library on January 21 between 10.30am and 11.30am.

Meet Your Local Officers at Buttrills PACT on Thursday, January 23 at The Civic Offices, Holton Road, Barry at 6.30pm.

A Deaf PACT on Monday, February 24 between 6pm and 7.30pm at the Emergency Services Centre, Barry Fire Station, Barry.

What's on?

LLANTWIT Major Town Mayor has several events lined up for 2020, the first being the annual Youth Music concert in St Illtud's Church on Saturday, February 1 at 6.30pm.

This year's programme includes Major Music, Llantwit Major Comprehensive, Atlantic College, Pendoylan School choir and a number of solo artists.

Tickets are available from Llantwit Major Town Council's Office in the Town Hall; or telephone 01446 793707.

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Councillors' surgery

THE Labour councillors for Buttrills, Cadoc, Castleland and Court wards will be holding their regular monthly advice surgery on Saturday, January 18.

It will take place in the Small Community Room, Barry Library, Kings Square from 10am until 11am. No appointment necessary.

Iron Horse Vintage run

THE Glamorgan Iron Horse Vintage Society (GIHVS) is organising a tractor run from Tondu to Porthcawl on Sunday, January 19.

GIHVS support the Wales Air Ambulance and there will be a bucket collection in Porthcawl from the arrival of the tractors, anticipated to be at noon. Please come and see the range of vintage tractors and support this event; and give generously to this great charity.

Big Screen Cowbridge

COWBRIDGE Big Screen's next film for this season is being sponsored by the British Film Institute who are keen to promote the musical in film.

We have chosen the award winning musical (10 Oscars) West Side Story of 1961 to be shown on Thursday, January 23 at 7.30pm in the Town Hall.

This is the classic story of rival New York gangs the Sharks and the Jets set to music by Leonard Bernstein, lyrics by Stephen Sondheim with choreography by Jerome Robbins. Doors open 7.10pm.

Tickets £5 (available in advance from the Town Clerk's office, The Pencil Case in Eastgate or on the door).

Work gets underway on £634,000 village hall scheme

WORK has begun on a new village hall in Ogmore-by-Sea in a project with the trustees of the Ogmore Village Hall Association working in partnership with the Vale Council to secure funding towards the ambitious £634,000 build.

The Ogmore-by-Sea Village Hall Association has been the driving force behind the project, which will see the former toilet block on open land adjacent to Slon Lane redeveloped to provide a community hall.

Pene Haskayne has long hoped a village hall could be built in Ogmore and now that dream is set to become a reality.

Long-time resident Pene, Ogmore Village Hall Association Trustee and Committee member said: "This is a special day and we really feel like we've achieved something. I'm really pleased to see work start on this building, which will be an important focal point for Ogmore.

"This will be somewhere to meet, it will be for everything and everyone. Everybody is so enthusiastic, we're going to need a good timetable to fit everybody in!"

The hall will serve the local community and be available to hire for weddings, christenings, funerals, sports and social events. It will include quiet space that can be used for classes and sit within landscaped green open space. The building, designed to be a focal point will also include a cafe to help with the hall's sustainability and also create jobs.

In total, the project will cost £634,000, £332,000 of which will come from Section 106 contributions secured by the Vale Council from nearby housing developments and £6,000 from the its Strong Community Grant Fund. The Association have also secured money from the EU via Welsh Government Rural Community Development Fund. The Community Facilities Programme and the Big Lottery have also provided generous grants.

Cllr Kathryn McCaffer, Vale Council Cabinet Member for Leisure, Arts and Culture, said: "I know the community has worked extremely hard to ensure this project became a reality and for that they deserve immense credit. I am pleased that that the Vale Council has been able to transfer a piece of land over to the community which will now house this beautiful hall."

Chairman of the Ogmore by Sea Village Hall Association, Eugene Travers Jones said: "It is great to see our contractor partner Holbrook Homes start work on site. The effort put into delivering a hall has truly been community based particularly given that the residents have been trying to achieve this since the early 1970s. I am sure the community hall will be a successful facility enjoyed by all in the community and I'd like to particularly thank the large number of individuals and companies who have given their time and money to help us finally achieve our goal."

GORCHYMYN CYNGOR BRO MORGANNWG (GWAHARDD A CHYFYNGU AR FANNAU AROS A LLWYTHO A PHARCIO) (GORFODI SIFIL) (DIWYGIAD) (RHIF 1) 2020

1. Hysbysir drwy hyn bod Cyngor Bro Morgannwg, wrth arfer ei bwerau dan Ddedd Rheoleiddio Traffig Ffyrdd 1984, a Deddf Rheoli Traffig 2004 a'r holl bwerau galluogi eraill, yn cynnig gwneud Gorchymyn er mwyn gosod a thynnu'r cyfyngiadau parcio a nodir yn yr atodlen isod.
2. Mae modd gweld manylion llawn, gan gynnwys copi o'r Gorchymyn arfaethedig, a Chynllun Rhif T/19/92/NR yn y cyfeiriad isod yn ystod oriau gwaith arferol a rhaid cyflwyno unrhyw wrthwynebiadau sydd gennych i'r cynnig hwn i Gyfarwyddwr yr Amgylchedd a Thai (Cyf. IF884) yn ysgrifenedig erbyn 7 Chwefror 2020 a rhaid cynnwys eich rhesymau dros wrthwynebu.
3. Rhoddir gwybod i unrhyw un sy'n gwrthwynebu'r Gorchymyn arfaethedig, yn unol â Deddf Llywodraeth Leol (Mynediad at Wybodaeth) 1985, bod rhwymedigaeth gyfreithiol ar y Cyngor hwn i alluogi'r cyhoedd i archwilio unrhyw sylwadau a ddaw i law am y Gorchymyn a gynigir.

Diwygir y Gorchymyn Rheoleiddio Traffig canlynol fel a ganlyn: Gorchymyn Gwahardd a Chyfyngu ar Fannau Aros a Llwytho a Pharcio (Gorfodi Sifil) 2013

ATODLEN

Insert into map schedules R23 S23
Cynnig Gwahardd Aros ar Unrhyw Adeg / Llwytho / Dad-lwytho ar Unrhyw Adeg Lôn Ddienw o flaen Ysgol Gynradd Llan-gan.
Ar ochr y gogledd, o'r gyffordd â Timbers Green am 79 metr i'r de-ddwyrain.
Ar ochr y gogledd-ddwyrain, o'r gyffordd â Timbers Green am 34metr i'r gogledd-ddwyrain.
Timbers Green.
Ar y ddwy ochr o'r gyffordd â'r lôn ddienw o flaen Ysgol Gynradd Llan-gan, am 8 metr tua'r gogledd-orllewin.

Dyddiad: 16 Ionawr 2020
Cyfarwyddwr yr Amgylchedd a Thai
Cyngor Bro Morgannwg, Yr Alpau,
Gwenfô. CF5 6AA.

THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL (PROHIBITION AND RESTRICTION OF WAITING AND LOADING AND PARKING PLACES) (CIVIL ENFORCEMENT) (AMENDMENT) (NO 1) ORDER 2020

1. Notice is given that the Vale of Glamorgan Council in exercise of its powers under the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 and the Traffic Management Act 2004 and of all other enabling powers proposes to make an Order to install and remove the parking restrictions specified in the schedules below.
2. Full details of the proposals, to include a copy of the proposed Order, and Plan No T/19/92/NR may be inspected at the address shown below during normal office hours and any objections you may have to this proposal must be submitted to the Director of Environment & Housing (Ref.IF894) in writing by 7th February 2020 and must contain the grounds upon which you object.
3. Persons objecting to the proposed Order are advised that in view of the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985 this Council is legally obliged to make any comments received in response to the proposed Order open to public inspection.

The following Traffic Regulation Order is to be amended as follows: Prohibition and Restriction of Waiting and Loading and Parking Places (Civil Enforcement) Order 2013

SCHEDULE

Insert into map schedule R23 S23
Proposed Prohibition of Waiting/Loading/Unloading At Any Time.
Unnamed Road that Fronts Llangan Primary School.
On the north-westerly side from its junction with Timbers Green for a distance of 79 metres in a south-westerly direction.
On the north-westerly side from its junction with Timbers Green for a distance of 34 metres in a north-easterly direction.
Timbers Green.
On both sides from its junction with the unnamed road that fronts Llangan Primary School for a distance of 8 metres in a north-westerly direction.

Dated this 16th day of January 2020
Director of Environment & Housing
Vale of Glamorgan Council, The Alps,
Wenvoe. CF5 6AA.

MP welcomes pay rise for workers in the Vale

FAMILIES in the Vale can look forward to receiving a well-earned pay rise with a new National Living Wage (NLW) thanks to the UK Conservative Government.

From April 1, it will rise to £8.72 per hour, its biggest cash increase ever – and an increase from the current value of £8.21.

MP Alun Cairns has welcomed the increase in the National Living Wage as the first in a series of measures that he says will support workers in the Vale.

Other measures include a 'triple tax lock' – meaning the rate of income tax, VAT or National Insurance will not be raised throughout the lifetime of the next Parliament.

In Wales, 149,000 people will benefit from a pay rise, equivalent to 12.3 per cent of all workers across the region.

The Vale MP said: "I've been keen to support job creation in the Vale and I am equally keen to ensure that people are well paid.

"We want to end low pay and put more money in the pockets of hard-working families.

"The Vale deserves a pay rise and I'm very proud to be part of a Conservative party that is delivering the higher-wage, lower-tax economy we all want to see."

He added. "We're backing hard work and aspiration – creating opportunity for hardworking people across the country.

"This latest rise will mean that since we introduced the National Living Wage in 2016, the lowest paid will have had a wage increase of more than £3,600.

"We're repaying the trust placed in us and delivering on people's priorities."

Community news from Llangan and Treoes with Nancy Davidge

PUPILS returned to Llangan School on Monday following their Christmas and new year holiday: the school is looking smart, with the new windows and roof.

The new housing development close to Llangan School is now progressing.

Saron Chapel: Work is continuing on the interior of the Saron Chapel vestry, following the completion of the vestry roof.

When the work is completed, the building will be an asset to the village of Treoes.

Please note: the next service at Saron will take place on Sunday, January 26 at 3pm. Officiating minister Rev Alwyn Evans, everyone is assured of a welcome.

www.glamorgan-gem.co.uk

New karate club is a big hit in Llantwit

ABOVE: Some of the people who attended the launch of Llantwit Major's new karate club.

NEARLY 30 people headed to the launch of a new karate club in Llantwit Major with organisers deeming the opening night a great success.

Shihan Roger Nevens, Sensei Justin Gwilliam and Sensei Will James decided to expand their club into the town after their set-up in Cowbridge became so popular.

Sensi James explained: "We had our first training session which was a free event. There was a massive turnout of 29 people including 18 beginners.

"There was a good mix of juniors and adults who all really enjoyed the session and took to it very well."

The launch event also included a demonstration of kata by the black belts and high grades.

Sensi James added: "It was a very successful evening and thanks have to go to all who came and the other instructors for helping out.

"If anyone else is thinking of joining please check our Facebook page which is Facebook.cpm/LMKJK or email lmjutsukai@gmail.com.

"We will be training every Thursday from 6pm until 7pm at Llantwit Major Comprehensive School sports hall."

Taylor Wimpey recruits 14 apprentices at development in Cowbridge

TAYLOR Wimpey South Wales has recruited 14 new apprentices at its Clare Garden Village development in Cowbridge.

The apprentices will specialise in brickwork and will continue to work with Taylor Wimpey on completion of their apprenticeship. The 14 apprentices are either local to Cowbridge or surrounding areas, such as, Barry, Pencoed and Bridgend. Taylor Wimpey has provided the apprentices with the necessary clothing and tools to allow training at its on-site training facility.

The apprentices will also carry out the academic element of their work on-site with Geason Apprenticeships, whose trainers will visit Clare Garden Village, where there is a dedicated classroom. Once the courses are complete, the apprentices will be offered jobs with Taylor Wimpey as directly employed bricklayers.

Huw Evans of Taylor Wimpey South Wales said: "We are delighted to welcome these 14 apprentices into the Taylor Wimpey team. They've worked really hard to get to this point and each of them fully deserves this opportunity." Sara Taylor, sales and marketing director added: "We're always proud to offer opportunities to young people; our apprenticeships are designed to give the right balance between classroom learning and hands-on experience, ensuring our trainees are best placed to be offered a permanent opportunity after their studies."

For more information on the careers and apprenticeships available at Taylor Wimpey, visit www.taylorwimpey.co.uk/careers.

FROM left to right: Connor Gillingham, Dafydd Hitchings, Tom Young, Sam Veasery, Liam Bendry, Jordan Reeve, Callum Ben, Luc Robertson, Huw Evans (production director), Jordan Williams, Malcom A'Hearne (Master Craftsman), Michael Goode, Reeve Heggie, Greg Calloway, Joe Beale, Jason Watkins.

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Dog of the Week

BELLA is a sweet eight-year-old Rottweiler with a lot of love to give.

She enjoys her walks and is very good on the lead, and she adores having an explore when she's out and about.

She prefers smaller, calm dogs as she can be a little worried around bigger dogs; but the team feel to give Bella the best chance of settling into her forever home, she would be best suited to being the only dog in the home so that she can have all the attention to herself.

She is looking for a quiet home and could live with children 14 years old and above. She is housetrained and can be left for a few hours.

Canine carer Heather West says: "Bella is a charming girl who has a loving personality. She is a joy to take out and would be a great walking buddy."

For more information on Bella, visit the Dogs Trust Rehoming Centre in Bridgend, CF31 4NG; or give us call on 01656 725219. You can also visit our website at www.dogstrust.org.uk.

AM seeks assurances over Brexit's financial implications

ASSEMBLY member Huw Irranca-Davies has sought an assurance that Wales will not lose out financially because of Brexit.

The Ogmore AM asked First Minister Mark Drakeford at the National Assembly what discussions he has had with Prime Minister Boris Johnson about the planned shared prosperity fund. The fund is intended to compensate Wales and other parts of the country for European structural funding that will be lost once the UK has left the European Union.

Mr Irranca-Davies said Mr Drakeford had rightly stood firm on the principle of "not a penny less, not a power lost" in respect of the shared prosperity fund.

But he added: "Over the last year, there has been little if any real engagement by the UK Government with the Welsh Government, and little detail beyond that headline."

He feels there is a need to work in a cross-border way on funding initiatives across the UK.

Mr Irranca-Davies said a steering group which he chairs would welcome a more open and transparent engagement from the newly-elected UK Government and the new Welsh Secretary on the shared prosperity fund.

He urged Mr Drakeford to engage with the UK Government on these matters on the very clear principle, as was guaranteed, of not a penny less and not a power lost.

Volunteering, could it be the thing for you?

GLAMORGAN Voluntary Services (GVS) is urging local residents to consider the benefits of volunteering as they look forward to a New Year.

A spokesperson said: "Would you like to meet new people, build your confidence, help others and enhance your CV, among other benefits."

Ray Scott, a volunteer said: "I decided to volunteer as I have always been drawn to doing so most of my adult life. Living in Canada for 15 years I had volunteered in many environments and on my return to the UK wanted to do more. "I am working on a befriending role through Age Connect with a lovely lady named Gill. She has very poor eyesight and mobility and has suffered from depression which led her to become quite reclusive.

"I spend time with her at home for company chatting the day away, I help her with her garden, and I have taken her out to bingo as she wants to be more social.

"Also, at CF61 I help with the Rebuild group. This is for 17-to-25-year-olds who are suffering with mental health issues.

"I also represent Plant Llantwit and help with the community garden project. The aim is for Plant Llantwit to work side by side with CF61 on further community conservation projects. "Volunteering is very rewarding as you are not only helping people in need but you are also building communities – and in life we all have our ups and downs and sometimes you may need help yourself. Building a community is one of the most positive things you can do for one another".

GVS is holding a volunteering fair when over 50 community organisations will be joining it on Thursday, January 23, 10am–2pm at the Memo Arts Centre, Barry.

For more information, email: *enquiries@gvs.wales*.

Miners Pension Compensation

We are successfully claiming compensation for former Welsh miners who transferred out of the Mineworkers Pension Scheme.

Many Welsh miners were advised to transfer out of their British coal pension scheme to a private scheme which paid considerably less! This was bad advice and many retired miners or their widows have lost out.

OTHER WORKERS AFFECTED!

• British Rail • British Gas • Civil Service
• Local Government • Dockers • Armed Forces
• Private Companies • Electricity Board • Teachers

Example 1 - £62,000

Mrs N. worked for the **LOCAL GOVERNMENT** in **CARDIFF**. In 1991 she was persuaded by a sales agent of **STANDARD LIFE** to transfer her pension to them. When she retired she realised she was getting a much lower pension than her friends who stayed with the Government Pension. Compensation - £62,143.

Example 2 - £87,000

Mr G. from **SWANSEA** was in the **ARMED FORCES**. In 1989 he was persuaded by a sales agent of **SCOTTISH AMICABLE** (now the Prudential) to transfer his Army Pension to them. He was promised a better pension. His pension was actually much less than the Army Pension. Compensation £38,724.

In the 1980's and 90's many people were persuaded by sales agents to transfer OUT of their work pension on the promise of a better return, however this was not true.

If you know a coal miner or someone else this might apply to, please make them aware of this information.

Example 1 - £87,000

Mr C. from **RISCA** worked at **CWM**. After the pit closed in 1986 he was advised by an agent of the **PRUDENTIAL** to transfer out of the miners pension. When he retired he noticed his pension wasn't as much as his friends who stayed in the miners scheme. Compensation £87,649.

Example 2 - £48,000

Mr W. from **PONTYPRIDD** worked at **MERTHYR VALE**. After the pit closed in 1989 he was advised by an independent financial advisor to transfer his miners pension to **SCOTTISH LIFE** (now Royal London). Even though the financial advisors were no longer in business he received compensation of £48,000.

Example 3 - £103,000

Mr J. from **CAERPHILLY** worked at **PENALTA**. After the pit closed in 1991 he was advised by a sales agent of the **PRUDENTIAL** to transfer out of the miners pension. This was not good advice, he lost out as a result. Compensation - £103,759.

Example 4 - £112,000

Mr H. from **PORTH** worked at **ABERCYNON**. After the pit closed in 1988 he was advised by an agent of **PEARL ASSURANCE** (now Phoenix Life) to transfer his miners pension to them. He noticed his pension wasn't as much as his friends who stayed in the British Coal Scheme. Compensation - £112,638.

If you transferred out of work pension scheme and would like a **FREE REVIEW**, please either call us on **FREEPHONE**:

0800 988 7997

or return the form below

Name

Address

Tel

I transferred out of the mineworkers pension to

Please can I have a Free Review to see if I am eligible for a payout ✓

Signed Date

Please address to: Miners Pension Compensation Dept, Corries Solicitors Ltd, 11 Melroses Yard, Walmgate, York, YO1 9XF.

Miners Pension Compensation is a trading name of Corries Solicitors Ltd, Melroses Yard, Walmgate, York YO1 9XF. Regulated by Solicitors Regulation Authority no. 424101.

Delight as circus ban moves closer

MEMBERS of the Senedd have unanimously backed the general principles of a law which will ban the use of wild animals in travelling circuses in Wales.

A vote took place on the floor of the Welsh Parliament on January 7 with all Members in favour – meaning a ban on the 'out-dated practice' draws ever nearer. RSPCA Cymru has long led the campaign to outlaw the use of wild animals in travelling circuses in Wales, with the country now one step closer to joining 45 others across the world who have taken some action on the issue.

Politicians from across the political spectrum highlighted RSPCA calls to further improve the legislation, including removing potential loopholes, tightening enforcement provisions and bringing the law into force.

The animal welfare charity has labelled this latest development 'great news for animals', as it plans to continue working with decision-makers as the Bill continues its legislative journey. Dr Ros Clubb, RSPCA senior scientific manager specialising in captive wild animals, said: "This vote was great news for animals – with the spectre of wild animals in travelling circuses one step closer to being consigned to Wales' history books.

"The transient nature of these circuses make things so difficult for the animals. Forced training, unsuitable accommodation, difficult journeys and unnatural social groupings all likely compromise their welfare and are a source of stress. We're so grateful to everyone who has backed the RSPCA's long-standing campaign on this issue. It will make such a powerful statement when this out-dated practice is finally brought to an end in Wales.

"We look forward to continuing to work with the Welsh Government and Members of the Senedd to ensure this ban is as effective as possible, and comes into force as soon as possible."

The RSPCA's campaign has incorporated numerous consultation responses, scientific papers, briefings, polling, public-facing events, street stalls, campaign actions and more.

Some 9,000 people previously backed an RSPCA Cymru petition calling for action, which paved the way for the Welsh Government to commission an independent review of evidence related to animal welfare of animals used in travelling and non-travelling circuses. This found that life in a travelling circus was not a 'good life' nor a 'life worth living' for wild animals.

Slimming World group meets Chatty Man

Left to right: Scott Hawkins who runs groups in Sarn; Millie Wilmot who runs groups in Porthcawl and Kenfig Hill; Alan Carr; Rachel Brent who runs groups in Porthcawl and Cornelly; and Catherine Reynolds who runs a group in Cornelly.

A GROUP of local Slimming World consultants recently celebrated their groups' successes by meeting chat show host and comedian, Alan Carr.

The TV personality co-hosted the annual Slimming World awards with the organisation's founder and chair Margaret Miles-Bramwell OBE, who opened her first group in 1969.

The team, who run Slimming World groups in Bridgend county borough, were delighted to get a chance to meet Alan.

Scott Hawkins said it was the perfect end to a fantastic year: "The members at our group make me burst with pride, not only have they seen big changes on the scales, many have improved their health and completely changed their lives too.

"Watching people grow in confidence each week and take on things that they didn't think possible before losing weight absolutely amazes me."

Alan, who presented comedy chat show *Chatty Man* on Channel 4, said it was great to be invited to the event, which was held at Birmingham's International Convention Centre.

He said: "I met so many people who had transformed their lives and it was clear how much the support they received from their Slimming World 'family' meant to them."

Millie Wilmot added: "For anyone who may be thinking of taking that step to lose weight and improve their health this New Year, I truly believe that joining a group is the best way for people to learn new habits and make long-term healthy changes."

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*Promotion runs from 17th – 26th January and applies to furniture and carpet departments only. Excludes all other departments. Discount applied at point of purchase. = In stock available for immediate delivery.

Concerns over plans for more biomass incinerators

THE Welsh Government has been asked if it intends blocking the building of more biomass incinerators in Wales.

South Wales East AM Mohammad Asghar asked at the National Assembly about the Government's attitude towards generating energy from biomass incinerators.

He said that campaigners in Barry have called for an immediate stop to work on the biomass incinerator in the town, and he also understands there is concern about another incinerator being built on the Wentloog Levels near Newport.

Mr Asghar asked for a statement from Environment Minister Lesley Griffiths on Government policy is regard to biomass incinerators, and whether she plans to impose a moratorium on approvals of such developments in future.

Government Organiser Rebecca Evans said Swansea AM Mike Hedges had recently raised a similar issue.

She said that Ms Griffiths had supplied Mr Hedges with information about the Government's policy on incineration, and she was sure she would also be keen to share it with Mr Asghar.

Ms Evans said: "We are currently considering the report from WSP on the adequacy of the environment statement prior to public consultation in terms of the Barry biomass incinerator."

Help for Heroes thanks fundraisers for support

REPRESENTATIVES of Help for Heroes joined the fundraising ladies of Heol Y Cyw near Bridgend to share stories of the men and women who have been supported by the Armed Forces charity's Community Recovery Programme in Wales and Hereford.

Area fundraising manager Rhys Edwards thanked the group, who held a winter crafter fair and raised over £600 in donations for Help for Heroes, which has a team based in nearby Treforest.

Recovery manager Shelley Elgin said: "Our specialist team delivers a range of holistic support, from one-to-one advice, clinical liaison, sports recovery and fellowship to men and women who have put their lives on the line for our country and been wounded or sick as a result of their service. We couldn't deliver the life changing activities and hubs we offer without the generosity of the public, and we are very grateful for everything the ladies at Heol Y Cyw have done for us."

Margaret Dunlop organised the fundraising event in November and visited the community recovery office during an open day where she heard from those who have been supported by Help for Heroes in the local area.

She invited the charity along to a coffee morning where attendees learned about the recovery support offered by Help for Heroes across the UK, and heard about the charity's #40ThousandStrong campaign which aims to improve the Medical Discharge process for men and women leaving the military following injury.

Email your stories, photos, letters and sports reports to editorial@glamorgan-gem.co.uk

AM cautions against 'anglicisation' of Welsh place names

ASSEMBLY member Suzy Davies has lent her voice to comments made by journalist and broadcaster Huw Edwards on the 'anglicisation' of Welsh place and building names, following a report on news website nation.cymru.

Mr Edwards – one of the stalwarts of BBC News – took to social media concerned at how Welsh is, in some cases, becoming a victim of what has been termed "linguistic cleansing".

Examples given include Porth Trecastell becoming 'Cable Bay', and the deconsecrated church of Nantcwnlle, now a private residence, becoming 'Dunroamin'.

With his tongue perhaps in his cheek, Mr Edwards added: "I propose replacing London with its old Welsh name 'Caerludd'. No? Ah. I thought not."

Mrs Davies, Shadow Minister for the Welsh Language, said: "Huw makes an amusing point, but no less powerful for its cheekiness.

"However, that it follows the news report yesterday that Transport for Wales (TfW) had, according to a leaked report, broken the law over its use of the Welsh language, makes for quite sad reading.

"We Welsh Conservatives supported a backbench bill to protect Welsh place names, but neither the Welsh Government no Welsh Labour supported it, and the bill was defeated by three votes.

"Huw is a such a well-known figure – from election night coverage to commentating on the annual Festival of Remembrance; presenting the BBC's flagship news programmes and commentating on royal events – that I wonder if he could use his influence on not only this issue, but perhaps also to bring more news from this devolved nation to the UK as a whole.

"Rarely does Wales – or Scotland and Northern Ireland – feature on mainstream media news across the UK.

"Even when reports are flagged up as relevant in England only, we're not told what the position is in the other UK nations. It's time that news from all nations in the UK is reported to the country as whole, because understanding our present is every bit as valuable as understanding our history."

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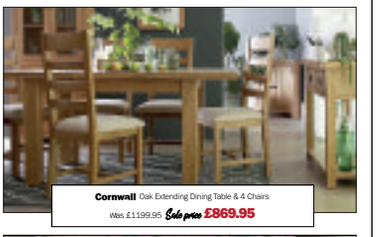

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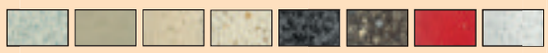

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Parents suspected of smacking children will face police investigation, letter says

A MINISTRY of Justice letter confirms that parents suspected of smacking will face police investigation if the Welsh Government's bill to outlaw reasonable chastisement passes.

The letter, sent at the end of last year to David TC Davies, MP for Monmouth, and seen by the Be Reasonable campaign, says: '…if the law changes and the police receive a report or a complaint that a child has been physically punished by an adult, they will investigate that report and decide what action to take, if any, based on the facts'.

It also confirms that information about parents who smack their children will be recorded by the police and could appear on an individual's Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check.

'Convictions will always show on police records,' it says. 'Whether they appear on Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) checks will depend on: the type of check the person is applying for; whether their conviction is spent under the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act; and whether their conviction is eligible to be filtered from standard or enhanced DBS certificates…'.

There are different levels of DBS check, but even standard DBS checks show details of spent and unspent convictions, cautions, reprimands and final warnings held on police records.

Jamie Gillies, spokesman for the Be Reasonable campaign, commented: "The letter confirms that loving parents will be investigated by the police for smacking and could be cautioned, and even prosecuted. Information will be seen on DBS checks by employers with potentially career-ending implications if the parent in question is say a doctor, a nurse, a teacher or a care worker.

"Does the Government really want this for parents in Wales? The stress and turmoil of police investigations and even criminal convictions, simply because they have used mild physical discipline? That would be highly detrimental to the family home. I think most sensible people in Wales see the smacking ban as quite draconian."

The news follows the publication of a survey of Welsh councillors, which revealed huge opposition to a smacking ban, with more than 7 in 10 opposed to a ban, and 9 in 10 saying councils do not have the resources to cope with one.

Analysis showed opposition was consistent across party lines, with a majority of councillors who responded from each of the main parties saying parents should be allowed to use reasonable chastisement with their children: Labour (59%), Plaid (65%) Conservative (100%), Lib Dem (56%) and Independent (90%).

The findings indicate a stark divide between the views of local politicians and members of the Welsh Assembly, who are due to vote on the Government's bill in the final Stage 3 and Stage 4 debates on Tuesday 21 January and Tuesday 28 January respectively.

The survey also highlights deep concern over the implementation of a ban at local authority level. A staggering 9 in 10 councillors said they do not believe their council has sufficient resources to cope with additional pressures brought about by a smacking ban, whilst 8 in 10 said social work teams would fail to cope with additional caseloads.

Almost 8 in 10 councillors felt that the Government should finance the implications of a smacking ban "as fully as necessary over time" and provide "public assurances that no other frontline services will be affected as a consequence of the Bill diverting resources".

These recommendations, made by the Welsh Assembly Children, Young People and Education Committee during scrutiny of the Government's plans, were rejected by Deputy Minister for Health and Social Services Julie Morgan.

Serious crime unit seize some £2m and make 300 arrests

LEFT: 2kg of heroin seized during Operation Jackdaw.

RIGHT: £16,000 cash recovered during Operation Jackdaw.

THE police unit tasked with tackling serious and organised crime across south Wales has been involved in more than 300 arrests and seized more than 30 kilogrammes of drugs during 2019.

Tarian, the south Wales regional organised crime unit, is tasked with tackling serious and organised crime and managing the threat posed from crimes such as firearms supply, county drugs lines, child sexual exploitation, cybercrime and modern day slavery.

In 2019 officers from the unit arrested 47 people, secured jail sentences of 199 years for both drugs and cybercrime, recovered six weapons under the Firearms Act, and seized 21.6 kilograms of Class A drugs and 10 kilograms of cannabis.

Tarian supported other forces and partner agencies which have led to an additional 265 arrests, secured jail sentences totalling 289 years for CSAE, drugs, fraud and prison offences.

More than £2 million has also been confiscated by the unit from convicted criminals under the Proceeds of Crime Act, and four account freezing orders have been secured using new legislation introduced this year.

Officers use a range of specialist tactics and work closely alongside police forces and partner agencies to disrupt dangerous offenders operating across the Gwent, south Wales and Dyfed Powys Police force areas.

Detective Superintendent Richard Williams, head of the regional organised crime unit said: "It's been a really successful year for Tarian as we continue to grow and expand our capabilities.

"Thanks to the hard work of our officers and partner agencies, a large number of prolific criminals spent Christmas behind bars and we've taken a significant quantity of drugs and illegal firearms off the streets.

Successes for Tarian this year include:

• Operation Jackdaw when 26 members of an organised crime group who ran a multi-million pound drugs supply business across south Wales were jailed for more than 200 years.

• Since January 2019, Tarian assets have identified 80 paedophiles online and worked with forces across the region and the whole of the UK to bring these offenders to justice, resulting in 80 children being safeguarded. Several foreign offenders have also been identified and the team has worked with international partners in those countries to bring offenders to justice.

• The Regional Economic Crime Unit utilised powers under the Proceeds of Crime Act to obtain confiscation orders against convicted criminals of £2,040,157.48 and the unit secured four account freezing orders using new legislation introduced during the year.

• The Asset Confiscation Team (ACE) which is part of the Regional Economic Crime Unit recovered £770,491.02 from the enforcement of previously imposed confiscation orders, and also obtained 304 prison default days against those individuals who were not prepared to pay their confiscation orders or engage in the process.

College shortlisted for three awards

CARDIFF and Vale College has been shortlisted for three Tes Further Education (FE) Awards, placing it among the top colleges in the country.

The college has been shortlisted in categories including Best Teaching and Learning Initiative, Contribution to the Local Community and Outstanding Use of Technology for Improving Teaching, Learning and Assessment. CAVC's focus on real and not just 'realistic' learning experiences for its learners put it on the shortlist for the Best Teaching and Learning Category.

Schemes such as the award-winning Junior Apprenticeship Programme, which aims to prevent 14 to 16-year-olds dropping out of education, Families Learning Together and schemes to bring English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) services together in one hub and raise health awareness among BAME communities feature strongly in the College's work.

Technology Enhanced Learning (TEL) is embedded throughout CAVC life. Ensuring staff have the state-of-the-art skills to empower learners to become the innovators of tomorrow has seen it shortlisted for the Tes Outstanding Use of Technology for Improving Teaching, Learning and Assessment Award.

CAVC principal Kay Martin said: "It really is an honour to be shortlisted for not just one, but three awards. The fact that these awards span such a broad range of the college's activities reflects how everyone here works so hard to meet the current and future needs of the communities it serves, and I am immensely proud of their achievements."

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Chefs to represent Wales at the Culinary Olympics

ABOVE: The senior team of chefs

ABOVE: The junior team including a young chef from Pontyclun.

TWO well prepared teams of chefs will be flying the Welsh flag as they take on the best in the world at the prestigious IKA Culinary Olympics in Stuttgart next month.

The senior and junior teams will join around 2,000 chefs and pastry chefs from more than 60 nations at the biggest and oldest international culinary art exhibition from February 14 to 19.

Senior Culinary Team Wales will be led by Nick Davies, culinary craft trainer with Cambrian Training, Welshpool, who combines the roles of team manager and member while Sergio Cinotti, from the award-winning Gemelli Restaurant, Newport, takes over the captaincy for the first time.

Junior Culinary Team Wales has Michael Kirkham-Evans, a lecturer at Grŵp Llandrillo Menai, Rhos-on-Sea, as manager and former senior team captain Danny Burke, a partner in Olive Tree Catering, Runcorn, as coach.

Also selected to represent the senior team are pastry chef Will Richards from Cambrian Training, Dylan Wyn Owen, Manchester City Football Club's executive chef, Matthew Smith, freelance chef from Newtown, Mark Robertson from Coleg Cambria, Wrexham, Jay Humphris from Coleg y Cymoedd and Thomas Martin, a freelance chef from Pontypridd. Logistics manager is Peter Fuchs, culinary director of The Celtic Collection and ICC Wales, Newport.

The senior team has held four events to run through the dishes it will cook for the Restaurant of Nations – one element of the competition – at the Culinary Olympics.

The chefs complete preparations with a sold-out dinner at Cobra Rugby Club on January 17.

The team met on January 2 to run through its chef's edible buffet, a new element introduced for the Culinary Olympics and will complete last minute fine tuning at a final training session on February 3.

"The team has a good mix of seasoned competitors and new members who have brought some fresh ideas to the table," said Nick, who will be competing at his fifth Culinary Olympics.

"Most of the chefs will be competing at the Culinary Olympics for the first time and are understandably excited by the prospect. They have bonded very well. Our Restaurant of Nations menu is looking and tasting good and we are perfecting the chef's edible buffet, which is being introduced for the first time at the Culinary Olympics."

The team's Restaurant of Nations menu for 110 covers opens with a starter of halibut, prawn, ravioli, textures of peas, asparagus and wild garlic and Carmarthen ham. Main course is marmalade glazed duck breast, confit leg bon bon, skin granola, root vegetable terrine, carrot puree and port jus. Dessert is rhubarb, apple, white chocolate, stem ginger and pistachio.

The junior team, captained by Callum Smith, The Lion and Pheasant, Shrewsbury, includes pastry chef Alys Evans, Llanerch Vineyard, Pontyclun, Dalton Weir, Home Cooking, Llandudno, Morgan Read, Brook House Mill, Denbigh, Lara Walker, Celtic Manor Resort, Newport, Alice Yeomans, Belmond Le Manoir aux Quat'Saisons, Great Milton, Oxford and James Jarvis, Sebastians Restaurant, Oswestry.

The talented young chefs complete their Restaurant of Nations menu run through with a lunch at Grŵp Llandrillo Menai, Rhos-on-Sea on January 28. They put the final touches to their dishes and the chef's edible buffet at a training bootcamp this week.

The team's Restaurant of Nations menu features a starter of Pembrokeshire scallop and roe croquette, seabass ceviche, chilled avocado, gin and elderflower cucumber. Main course is dry aged fillet and short rib of Welsh Beef, sourdough crouton, onion puree and Butty Bach jus. Dessert is chocolate black cherry chilled fondant, white chocolate and griottine cherry custard, crème fraiche sorbet, sesame tuille and sour cherry gel.

Both manager and coach are pleased with the young team's progress and are looking to the final practice dinner to fine tune the chefs ready for the Culinary Olympics. Most of the chefs are aged between 19 and 21.

"Alys competed with the senior team at the Culinary World Cup in November 2018 and two members went as commis chefs to gain experience," said Michael.

"The junior team is better prepared than we have ever been. Our Restaurant of Nations menu is packed with flavour and requires lots of different skills from the chefs. With 50 per cent of the hot kitchen marks awarded for flavour, we are hoping to score well for taste. The main course is braised Jacob's Ladder and a small fillet of Welsh Beef, which seems to be working well with the people who have tasted it.

"Danny is working on the menus and has introduced some elements of the dishes that helped him to win the Northern Europe heat of the Global Chef Challenge. We are finalising the chef's edible buffet, which has 12 courses, including canapes, terrines, a hot rabbit dish and a dessert."

At the Culinary Olympics, the senior team produces its chef's edible buffet on February 16 and its Restaurant of Nations hot kitchen menu for 110 covers on February 18. The junior team delivers its Restaurant of Nations menu for 60 covers on February 15 and its chef's edible buffet on February 17.

Culinary Team Wales is sponsored by the Welsh Government's Food and Drink Wales, Cambrian Training Company, Grŵp Llandrillo Menai, Castell Howell Foods, Hybu Cig Cymru and Harlech Foods.

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For students considering Post 16 Studies

Wales Air Ambulance flies to the rescue

Cowbridge U3A members learned about the Welsh Air Ambulance service at their recent meeting.

THE Wales Air Ambulance was the subject of the presentation at the Cowbridge U3A.

Guest speaker Wendy McManus, their community co-ordinator, had the audience captivated as the story of the helicopter ambulance service in Wales unfolded. There are currently four bases in Wales, each with a helicopter, at Llanelli (the HQ), Welshpool, Caernarfon and in Cardiff Bay (home to the children's heli-ambulance), with approximately 2,500 missions now being undertaken annually. This coverage ensures that anywhere within the Principality is within a 20 minute flight time. Each helicopter carries an A & E consultant and a critical care practitioner trained to a higher standard than a paramedic. The service stationed in Cardiff specialises in transferring children between UK hospitals, as well as the usual emergency flights. The Welsh Air Ambulance, with current operating costs of £6.5 million per annum (rising by a further £2 million when the 24/7 service starts), is a registered charity, supported wholly by public donations. The next meeting: 'Why does China…?', an analysis of the Chinese way of living by Geoff Henderson, takes place at 2pm on February 12 in Cowbridge Town Hall. Visitors welcome; see www.u3asites.org.uk/cowbridge.

More than 500,000 bus passes renewed

TRANSPORT for Wales is pleased to announce that they have renewed over a half a million concessionary bus passes.

Over the past few months, Transport for Wales has been managing the reissue programme on behalf of Welsh Government and all Welsh local authorities to replace all over-60 and disabled persons' bus passes with new-style Concessionary Travel Cards.

The original expiry date for the old bus passes was December 31, 2019: however, last month TfW announced a period of grace and is urging those who have yet to apply to do so as soon as possible, before the February 29 deadline.

Recent figures reveal that 67% of all existing active card holders have made an online application to renew and 83% of users of cards in the last 12 months have also made an online application.

Ken Skates, Minister for Economy and Transport said: "This is an important milestone and one that demonstrates the scale of the work that has been undertaken so far. The grace period is ongoing and once again I would like to encourage anyone who hasn't renewed to apply, and ensure you can continue to benefit from the bus pass in the long-term."

James Price, Transport for Wales CEO said: "It's great that we've renewed over half a million bus passes and I'd like to thank everyone who has applied so far. Our figures indicate that we are making good progress in our renewal programme, however, can those who have not yet applied, please do so before the January 31 deadline.

"Transport for Wales is transforming transport throughout Wales and creating a unified transport network is one of the key objectives. We recently launched the new Metro Infrastructure Hub at Treforest which will play a fundamental role in creation of the Metro, which will include better integration with bus services in the future".

Applying online is simple and easy. It takes around 10 minutes at www.tfw.wales travelcards. Paper applications are available from local councils or by calling 0300 303 4240.

Porthcawl busiest station in UK, says NCI

IN 2019, the National Coastwatch Institution at Porthcawl handled a total of 85 logged incidents, an increase of 39% on the previous year.

A total of 169 monitored incidents were recorded for 2019, up by 28% on the previous year and a total of 9,772 vessel movements were logged, which was a 24% increase on the previous year.

These statistics made Porthcawl the busiest NCI station in the UK for the number of incidents handled – quite an achievement for the small station, but testament to the vigilance of their dedicated crew.

Ian Cole, one of our watchkeepers, was congratulated for being awarded an OBE in the New Year's Honours list, for services to defence and the local community, reflecting his MoD service, as well as many years as Station Officer with Porthcawl Coastguard and more recently with Porthcawl NCI.

In May 2020, they will be hosting a fund-raising choral event at Porthcawl's Grand Pavilion featuring Morriston Orpheus Male Voice Choir and the Parc and Dare brass band. They are seeking sponsorship to cover outlay for this major event and any potential sponsors are encouraged to contact them.

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Contact 01446 732385 for further information; home visits can be arranged if needed.

Gardening Club

MEETINGS of the Cowbridge Gardening Club will resume on Thursday, January 30 at 7pm in the Lesser Hall.

The speaker will be Sue Duffield on 'Tresco and the Isles of Scilly'. New members welcome.

Horse Racing Night

COMMENCING at 7.30pm on Friday, January 31, at Coytrahen Community Centre there will be a fun filled night of horse racing on film including a couple of games of novelty bingo to add to the fun.

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Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Morgannwg crowned Welsh debating champions

Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Morgannwg's Rhys Griffiths and Sara Jones are national award winners.

YSGOL Gymraeg Bro Morgannwg's debating team have become ESU Welsh Debating Champions.

Sara Jones, year 11 and Rhys Griffiths, year 12 debated against Cardiff Sixth Form College in the final round and the adjudicators decided to crown Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Morgannwg this year's national champions. The team's topic was 'This House would abolish the United Nations Security Council' and both Sara and Rhys were praised for their contributions.

Rhys said: "It has been a great opportunity to meet other pupils who are so enthusiastic about debating. It is such a privilege to win such an award with the praise that we received. I'm already looking forward to more public speaking opportunities in the future.

Headteacher Hywel Price said: "I'm extremely proud of these pupils, and Ms Elena Morgan, who holds weekly debating clubs, training pupils as young as year 7.

"For Sara and Rhys to be able to win an English medium debating competition shows the value of bilingual education here at Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Morgannwg. Once again, the school has done well and we're all very happy for these talented pupils here at the school."

Da iawn chi!

Call for tech enthusiasts to help blind and partially sighted people

A VETERAN RNIB volunteer is encouraging people across Wales to help blind and partially sighted people access life-changing technology.

Dickon Oliver from Wenvoe has been a technology support volunteer for RNIB for almost 40 years. After originally volunteering in 1978 for some years, he started again in 2000. Dickon, a retired engineer, is now supporting RNIB's call-out for Welsh technology enthusiasts to join the volunteering team.

There are currently 111,000 people living with sight loss in Wales and this number is set to double by 2050. For many blind and partially sighted people, being able to use the right devices, apps and gadgets is crucial to living an independent and fulfilling life.

However, it can be difficult for people with sight loss to access the technology that will help them the most. Setting up a new computer, tablet, smartphone or e-reader is often challenging, especially for older users.

RNIB is committed to offering technical support to blind and partially sighted people across Wales. Its Technology For Life team, led by friendly tech support volunteers, help with all kinds of technology queries and issues over the phone or via email, support learning sessions and share tech skills at IT hubs, and provide one-to-one support to people in their homes.

Dickon said: "Volunteering in technology support for RNIB brings me so much satisfaction. As I had a technical background, I thought it would be nice to use my knowledge to help others and make a tangible difference to the lives of blind and partially sighted people.

"The job has obviously changed a lot since I first started volunteering. In the 1970s all we really needed to do was fix Talking Book tape players, but now there is a huge range of technology available to help blind and partially sighted people to live independent, fulfilling lives. Technology has come so far and has changed so many people's lives. It is nice to feel like a small part of that puzzle by volunteering.

"I volunteer between two and three hours per week and meet so many interesting people by doing home visits. If you have a bit of spare time and enjoy meeting new people I would definitely recommend signing up."

Hannah Rowlatt, RNIB Technology For Life coordinator Wales, said: "Our technology services are built on volunteer-led delivery, and we're always looking for more technology volunteers to help us coordinate and organise our services. If you believe in the power of technology to increase wellbeing and transform lives and are interested in volunteering, we'd love to welcome you to the team."

To find out how to become a Technology for Life volunteer visit: www.rnib.org.uk/volunteering/search-by-volunteer-category/become-tech-volunteer.

Latest news from Fonmon Apiary

NOT a great deal of external activity at Fonmon Apiary at present.

However, when conditions are suitable with no rain, light wind and, of course, the appearance of the sun, some bees are venturing out; but this is mainly cleansing flights. What are cleansing flights? Throughout the winter months, the colony does consume the internal stores and this consumption does require that bodily waste be excreted. If the weather is such that the bees cannot get out, unlike ourselves they can retain this waste until times are suitable.

Hive cleanliness is strictly observed throughout the year.

Should the mild conditions continue, the colonies will respond accordingly: the queens have started to lay some eggs and this means that I must be ready to meet the increase in colony numbers.

How will I do this? The boxes that will increase the room have been cleaned and gone over with a flame-gun. The frames of drawn comb that the bees will need to store pollen and nectar are at present stored in vermin-proof clear plastic storage boxes.

Why use clear boxes? I must be able to observe the wax in these combs throughout this period of non-use by the bees, because they may well have eggs of the wax moth on them and if I do not take measures to obviate this, those eggs would develop into larvae which would eat their way through the wax combs, rendering them totally unusable by the bees.

Having stored the combs securely against attack by mice, I must add acetic acid-soaked pads to prevent any wax moth eggs from developing into the dreaded larvae. The wax moth is a night flyer and can gain access to the hives despite the best endeavours of the bees. This process goes on throughout the year but a strong colony is able handle this invasion and control the attempted ravages of the larvae. The beekeeper must take the appropriate action to protect the stored combs.

Harold Williams

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UK BREAKS

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Weekend

Departing Friday 19 Jun

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Your break includes
- ✔ Return coach travel from Bridgend & Cardiff
- ✔ 3 nights at the Seascape Hotel, Torquay with dinner & breakfast
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- ✔ Excursion to Dawlish & Teignmouth

Optional excursion to Brixham & Paignton (£8pp)

4 Days by Coach *only* **£169.99**

Single Supplement £45

GREAT LITTLE TRAINS
of North Wales

Departing Monday 29 Jun

Join us as we explore the spectacular scenery and historic railways and tramways of North Wales. A rugged coastline, magnificent castles and the endless panoramas of the Snowdonia National Park make for a memorable break away from it all.

Your break includes
- ✔ Return coach travel from Bridgend & Cardiff
- ✔ 4 nights at the Westminster Hotel, Rhyl with dinner & breakfast
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5 Days by Coach *only* **£319**

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Out & About with The GEM

Art Trail offers guide to amazing places in the Vale

THE 'A Path In Peace Art Trail' project and Archaelogy Cymru have come together to share the beautiful Highlight Chapel nestled at the top of Barry.

A path has been cleared by Archaelogy Wales, The Vale Council and Brynhill Golf Club and leads to a haven of peace looking out towards the Vale. Why not take a stroll and sit amongst our wonderful heritage?

Local artist Glyn Pooley said: "The artworks in this trail are responses to sacred ecclesiastical sites in Barry and the Vale that have stood the test of time.

"They are places that have become a deeply-rooted resource through their longevity, marking a unique position in our landscape. The trail is a guide to some of these amazing places."

There is a free trail guide leaflet to accompany the exhibition.

Visit www.glynpooley.co.uk/galleries/paintings/category/a-path-in-peace-art-trail-2019 for further information.

Start your day with a farmhouse breakfast!

BREAKFAST is one of the most important meals of the day and it is a great opportunity to talk and share your thoughts before starting the day.

In order to promote the health benefits and have a good catch-up before the day starts, the Farmers' Union of Wales (FUW) Glamorgan team is once again hosting a farmhouse breakfast in Cowbridge on Friday, January 24 in the Cowbridge Lesser Hall (CF71 7DD).

There is also a breakfast on Tuesday, January 21, at Cwm Farm Shop, Treorchy CF42 6DLA.

FUW Glamorgan county chairman Richard Walker said: "We all get really excited about our farmhouse breakfast every year. We can start the day together with family, friends and neighbours, in a positive way and at the same time raise money for our charitable cause, the DPJ Foundation.

"All of us are looking forward to yet another good turnout. It's fair to say that a healthy start is not just good for a healthy heart, but also for a healthy mind."

The FUW's Farmhouse breakfast week (January 20–26) also provides an opportunity to promote the quality local produce that farmers grow in a sustainable way, and throughout breakfast week the FUW will shine a spotlight on the importance of our rural economy.

To book a seat at the table, contact the FUW's Glamorgan office on 01446 774838.

What's on and where?

Cowbridge Art Society

ON Thursday, January 16 Cowbridge Art Society starts the spring term with an oil painting demonstration by a new demonstrator – Gigi Jones, who shares her time between her studios in Wales and central France.

Throughout this term there will be demonstrations by artists who are members of professional societies, who have published a number of books describing their particular approach, and who have exhibited throughout the UK.

The following week on January 23, there will be a watercolour demonstration by Llantwit Major artist Peter Cronin.

Full membership information plus the complete 2019/20 programme is available on our Facebook page, facebook.com/cowbridgeart.cas.

Councillors' surgery

LLANTWIT First Independent councillors will hold a surgery at the Old School, Wine Street, Llantwit Major on Saturday, January 18 from 9.30am until 11.30am.

Residents who have any issue to raise are welcome to attend.

Live music in Rhoose

ON January 18, The Shameless will be playing at the Rhoose Social Club from 8pm to raise money for the local Scout group. Tickets £5 in advance or on the door.

Messy Church in Bonvilston

MESSY Church will take place on Sunday, January 19 in the Reading Room, Bonvilston (opposite Old Village Shop) at 2.30pm – 4pm.

We extend a warm welcome to youngster (and toddlers – with their parents) for activities for all the family: crafty things to make, some singing, a Bible story and plenty of refreshment – no charge!

We would be delighted if you could join us: further info from Rev Lee Dutfield on 07784 869020; Rev Canon Martyn Davies on 01446 760498 or Ann Roach on 01446 781309.

Credit Union advice

IF you live in the Vale or Cardiff and are looking for flexible saving accounts, affordable low interest loans with no hidden charges – perhaps a loan for electrical white goods?

(In partnership with Co-op Electrical), Age Connects Cardiff and Vale are holding a drop-in information session on Tuesday, January 21 from 10am to 12pm at Age Connects Cardiff and Vale Senior Health Shop, 38 Holton Road, Barry.

Come and talk to an adviser from Credit Union, no appointment needed. Call 01446 732385 for further information.

Valeways guided walks

ON Wednesday, January 22 the Coffee Shop Strollers of Barry will meet at Bron y Mor car park on Cold Knap, Barry at 10.30am.

The same day, the Coffee Shop Strollers of Cowbridge will meet at the Physic Garden fountain in Cowbridge at 2.30pm.

On Thursday, January 23 a Walk for Carers takes place starting at 10.30am at Barry Island railway station.

Also on January 23, a walk around The Leys and the Thaw River. Walkers will meet at Fontygary Caravan Park at 11am.

The same day, the Coffee Shop Strollers of Penarth meet at 2.30pm at the cliff top car park in Penarth.

Pupils on stage in Sister Act.

PORTHCAWL Comprehensive School's production of 'Sister Act!' is at the Grand Pavilion, Porthcawl, January 22, 23 and 24, (7pm) and Saturday, January 25 (2pm).

Epilepsy support

DO you have epilepsy or care for a loved one with this condition?

Epilepsy Wales run a monthly support group at Age Connects Cardiff and Vale Senior Health Shop in Holton Road, Barry; the next session on Thursday, January 23 from 10.30am to 12pm.

Health care professional Lesley Williams from Epilepsy Wales will advise on support groups and information available.

Contact 01446 732395 for further information.

Meet the author

PENARTH author Jan Marsh is set to launch the fourth and final book in her series of Foxwood novels set in a 'co-living community' on the Welsh borders.

All There Is concludes the series which follows the development of the shared community and the lives of its residents, through the ups and downs of 'living together but apart.'

Dinas Powys Library will be the venue for the launch on Thursday, January 30 at 6pm where you can meet the author. All of Jan's books are available on Amazon as ebooks and in paperback and you can follow her on: www.janamarsh.com.

GVS Volunteering fair

ATTEND GVS' Big Volunteering Fair!

More than 50 community organisations will team up with Glamorgan Voluntary Services (GVS) to recruit volunteers on Thursday, January 23 from 10am–2pm at the Memo Arts Centre, Barry. Why not come along, speak to providers and have a look at the many opportunities that could set you on a new adventure?

Contact Glamorgan Voluntary Services (GVS) on 01446 741706 or email enquiries@gvs.wales.

Penarth Civic Society presents... the Wallace Family

ON Thursday, January 23 at St Augustine's Hall in Penarth at 7pm Bruce Wallace will give an illustrated presentation entitled 'A Soldier, a Sailor, a Salvationist and My Mum Marching'; an illustrated talk about four members of Bruce's family in Penarth over the last 100 years.

Members free, non-members £2.

PACT in Bridgend

BETTWS PACT meeting will be held at Bettws Life Centre on Thursday, January 30 at 5pm.

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Break free from debt in 2020

A LOCAL charity says breaking free from debt is the best goal you can work towards in 2020.

The Aberkenfig branch of Christians Against Poverty (CAP) runs a debt help service, in partnership with the churches in Aberkenfig. Aberkenfig Debt Centre manager Nicola Thomas said: "Financial problems feel overwhelming but there is free help available. If you are worrying about how to deal with money after Christmas, do not delay: make the call today and we can deal with it together.

"Our lines reopen on January 20 to take on new clients and we have a freephone number – 0800 328 0006 – to make it as easy as possible to get in touch. The team are ready and waiting for your call so that at the beginning of 2020, you can start on the journey towards getting out of debt. They'll make an appointment for you with with a debt coach from Aberkenfig Debt Centre and one of the local churches in the group, who will come to visit you in the privacy of your home.

"Poverty affects the whole household," said Nicola, adding that one in three (27%) CAP clients grew up in a home affected by debt and four in five (80%) said debt negatively affected their children.

Former client Carol said about working with CAP: "When you're stressed and anxious, you're very short tempered. I wasn't sleeping or eating properly, I wasn't looking after myself. When I think about it now, I felt so awful that I'd got into that situation where I couldn't feed my family."

The majority of CAP's clients (66%) have waited more than a year before seeking help, revealing that people are suffering in the grip of poverty while help is a phone call away.

Top tips on how to create a secret oasis of calm

CREATING a secret oasis of calm in your garden that provides a bit of privacy and a peaceful place to sit and relax or catch up with friends and family doesn't have to be complicated or costly.

By taking some simple garden planning ideas and adapting them, you can achieve your perfect hideaway without resorting to planting a huge conifer hedge. If your existing fencing is unsightly give it a makeover by painting it or covering it in climbing plants: they will add softness to a fence, encourage wildlife and provide fragrance.

If you choose wisely, they can also be evergreen to give a bit of structure to the garden in winter. Jasmine is a classic scented climber, while something like Clematis armandii is semi-evergreen. A covered seating area not only adds a bit of height, it allows you to have a secluded hideaway in which to enjoy the garden well into the late summer evenings. A corner of the garden can be a good place for a structure with a solid roof – or an open roof decked in climbers. Clematis montana will cover a pergola in no time, or for repeat-flowering go for scented roses.

Evergreen screening is very effective at blocking out unsightly views while providing a sense of seclusion. For the smaller garden, have a row of single or trained trees, whose branches become dense over time such as the evergreen Magnolia grandiflora or Acer platanoides for training. Alternatively, plant hedging that provides shelter and acts as a sound barrier. Try a living wall with herbaceous plants, including edibles, grown in pockets and fixed to a wall (great for adding interest to plain brickwork).

An arbour makes a delightful seating space and can be erected against a fence, the side of a house, or be freestanding. Smothered in jasmine, wisteria, roses or evergreen climbers, it's not only lovely to look at but a natural sanctuary – and with the addition of a bench or garden seating can be a go-to place for unwinding at the end of the day.

As dreams of sitting in a sunny spot in the garden get closer to becoming a reality as the days get longer, there are things that need doing in the garden. As the garden comes to life again, it's time to prune shrubs and climbers, such as Wisteria as well as evergreen hedges. According to the RHS, jobs for this month should include:

Prepare vegetable seed beds and sow vegetables under cover; protect blossom on apricots and peaches; prune winter flowering shrubs that have finished; prune Wisteria; prune hardy evergreen hedges; prune conservatory climbers; cut back deciduous grasses and remove dead grass from evergreen grasses.

Expansion plans for radio station

BRO Radio, the community radio station for the Vale of Glamorgan, is excited to announce that industry regulator OFCOM, has approved plans for the station to improve and extend its FM coverage in 2020. The plans will not only see the station boost its existing FM coverage in Barry, but also launch a new frequency, 100.2FM, for listeners in and around Llantwit Major.

Bro Radio has always had strong ambitions to fill the gap in local radio services across the wider Vale since its launch in 2007.

As it heads into its 11th year on air, it will start to make those ambitions a reality.

Since OFCOM initially informed Bro Radio's directors of the FM extension approval in October 2019, the team have been working with its engineers to design and cost the works required to install the new infrastructure as soon as possible.

This will mean new equipment being installed to increase the existing coverage area, while also plugging some existing transmission gaps and improving the quality of the signal to Sully, Dinas Powys, Penarth, Rhoose and Wenvoe.

Later this year, the station will begin work to install additional infrastructure at a new site, which will mean that Bro Radio will be heard in Llantwit Major and the surrounding areas on 100.2FM, bringing Bro Radio to these locations for the very first time.

Operations director Nathan Spackman said: "This is a really exciting time for everyone at Bro Radio.

"We have always striven to see Bro Radio become a station for the Vale and by undertaking this work, we are now on our way to making that possible.

"We are going to be making improvements to our FM coverage from our Barry transmitter at the end of this month and I hope listeners will see immediate improvements to our coverage.

"Work in Llantwit Major is expected to take a little longer, as we are not able to undertake the required work until we secure the £7,500 in funding to make it possible.

"Anyone wishing to support our aim of bringing Bro Radio to the rural Vale should get in touch, we would love to hear from you."

It is hoped the improvement and extension work will provide listeners in the majority of the Vale with a strong FM signal for their local radio station.

Anyone who may be able to help should contact Nathan Spackman at manager@broradio.fm or call 01446 420 681.

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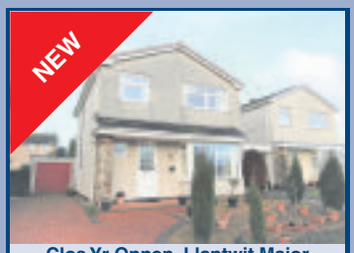

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Mynydd Cynffig WI start their year

THE weather was terrible, but we didn't mind it – it was the first meeting of Mynydd Cynffig WI in 2020 and we were determined to enjoy ourselves, bad weather or not!

WI business was discussed including many of the trips and outings on offer. Our lunch club is going from strength to strength: we are even discussing afternoon tea when the weather gets better.

Our speakers for the coming year will give us a chance to enjoy something new and in some cases, participate in things we haven't tried before. The WI gives something different for each and every one of us. Company, a chance to see friends, enjoy new experiences with our speakers every month, trips and outings. We meet each month in the Talbot Center on the second Tuesday from 2pm to 4.30pm. You'll be very welcome to call in – we've always got tea and biscuits at the ready!

CC

Barry U3A – a history lesson, and the Luncheon Club

BARRY U3A's first meeting of 2020 was on January 6.

The speaker for January was Ann Konsbruck, a member of the Llanishen History Society and also a volunteer at the Glamorgan Archives. Ann's talk was on Major Henry Fothergill (a one time ironmaster living in Wales) whose diaries are lodged at the Archive. She showed us some sample pages from the diaries.

Although Henry Fothergill had been an ironmaster and great friends with the Crawshays, he was very wealthy and eventually gave it up just so that he could travel around the world whenever he wished. Essentially his diaries are a description of his travels and indeed some of the people he met, such as Brigham Young. One has to have every admiration for Ann for processing all of the diaries which can be found on-line in the Glamorgan Archives.

For those of you out there who might like to belong to a luncheon club, Barry U3A hosts one which meets every month and you would be welcome to be a member. The January luncheon is due to be held in a private room at the Ship Hotel and the February luncheon at the Colcot Arms on February 21. If you are interested, just show up at our monthly U3A meeting in order to meet the organisers.

The next meeting will be on Monday, February 3 at 2.30pm in Bethel Baptist Church in Harbour Road on the roundabout in Park Crescent. Anyone interested in joining Barry U3A should call Christine on 01446 701537 or just turn up on the day.

Send us your stories, photos, letters and sports reports

2020 to be a Year of Pilgrimage in Wales

2020 marks the anniversary of 100 years of the Church in Wales being a separate province within the Anglican Church.

It is also the 900th anniversary of the building of Llandaff Cathedral and to celebrate these landmarks, this year will be the Year of Pilgrimage.

Parishioners from Colwinston, Llandow and Llysworney attended a service at a packed Llandaff Cathedral to launch this event.

During the service, Bishop June talked about "flying the flag for faith, supporting our communities and encouraging cooperation and friendship".

Presentations were made to schools and parishes of a faith candle, a pilgrim's staff, scallop shell and a pilgrim bear, and the symbols will travel to every church and school in the diocese of Llandaff.

KJ

MP challenges government to fix school funding

VALE of Glamorgan MP Alun Cairns has challenged the Welsh Government to use the boost in education funding from Westminster to change their current school funding formula, which currently underfunds schools in the Vale.

School funding has been the subject of a long-standing dispute between local authorities, like the Vale of Glamorgan and the Welsh Government. Figures show that under the current settlement, schools in the Vale of Glamorgan receive significantly less funding than schools in other local authorities across Wales. Welsh Government statistics show that the per-pupil budgeted expenditure in the Vale of Glamorgan for 2019/20 is over £600 below the Welsh average. In addition, data collected by teaching unions, including NAHT, shows that 92% of schools in the Vale of Glamorgan have received a cut in per-pupil funding since 2015.

Last summer, the National Assembly for Wales' Children, Young People and Education Committee produced a report into school funding in Wales. Among other things, it recommended a review into the funding system and identifying the basic minimum cost of running a school and educating a child in Wales, before allocating additional resources required for other factors such as deprivation and sparsity and local circumstances.

Almost six months after the release of the report, Mr Cairns says the Welsh Government has failed to act and has called on the Education Minister, Kirsty Williams AM, to introduce the change that Vale schools need.

He has pointed to the additional funding for education from Westminster, which sees Wales receive £120 for every £100 spent per head in England, as the perfect opportunity to fix the funding crisis.

As a longstanding campaigner for fair school funding, Mr Cairns has met with headteachers from across the Vale to discuss the challenges that the underfunding is creating for schools and the impact it has on delivering for pupils. Together they are reviving the challenge to the Welsh Government.

Mr Cairns said: "The underfunding of Vale schools by the Welsh Government is completely unacceptable. The UK Government has just given a significant boost to education funding, resulting in an uplift for Wales. Unfortunately, the Welsh Government have still refused to deal with it. This is despite the committee report finding that it needs to be reviewed and the Education Minister initially agreeing to the recommendation."

He added: "I have written to the Education Minister to bring the matter to her attention once again and I am aware that headteachers locally have also demonstrated the challenges they face due to underfunding. It's vital that this is dealt with at the earliest opportunity, to ensure that our pupils have the best opportunities in their education."

AM calls for debate on musical heritage of the valleys

HUW Irranca-Davies has called for the National Assembly to help celebrate the "incredible musical cultural heritage" of the south Wales valleys.

The Ogmore AM says he was delighted some years ago to unveil a plaque commemorating the first-ever public performance of 'Hen Wlad fy Nhadau' at the now-demolished Tabor Chapel in Maesteg. He said the composition that was to become the Welsh national anthem was first sung in public by a 16-year-old in the chapel vestry.

Mr Irranca-Davies told AMs: "More importantly, very shortly there's an exciting commemoration coming up of Daniel James 'Bad Boy' Gwyrosydd, who was the author of the lyrics of Calon Lân. It's fascinating because of its heritage as one of the favourite songs and hymns in Wales.

"Daniel James Gwyrosydd was known as Bad Boy because he was as fond of the public house as he was of the pulpit." Mr Irranca-Davies said myth has it that Calon Lan was composed on the back of cigarette papers in the Blaengarw Hotel across the road, and there's no reason to doubt it. He told AMs: "We are commemorating that very shortly. There'll be a choir coming in and a social event that Daniel James Gwyrosydd would have loved, alongside commemorations in Swansea – his place of birth – to recognise that."

Mr Irranca-Davies said a debate at the Senedd would help celebrate the "deep rich history" of the valleys and the anthems and songs that are still sung on the terraces at sporting events.

Government organiser Rebecca Evans said there is a lot of interest in the 100th anniversary of the writing of Calon Lan. She was sure Mr Irranca-Davies' call for a debate would be considered by Culture Minister Lord Dafydd Elis-Thomas.

Financial boost for Girlguiding in Central Glamorgan

GIRLGUIDING Central Glamorgan is celebrating this week - thanks to support from Barratt Homes.

The housebuilder has donated £1,000 towards renovating a property in Porthcawl, which is a venue for Rainbow sleepovers, Brownie holidays and Guide camps. Local beach academies also use it for outdoor activity days.

"We are in the process of renovating the property and creating improvements to the grounds, so more local groups can use the site," said Anna Stevens, of Girlguiding Central Glamorgan. "Local schools also use the site for their outdoor activity weekends and holidays - as well as Duke of Edinburgh hiking expeditions. We are proud of the range of opportunities we offer to local young people and adults across the county - and would like to thank Barratt Homes for this generous donation, which will help us greatly in the work we do here."

Girlguiding Central Glamorgan has 2,088 young members, from Merthyr in the north to Porthcawl in the south, managed by teams of adults who are trained volunteers. "This is a hugely important local resource - offering inclusive opportunities to a large number of young people living in towns, valleys and rural areas in the region," said Barratt Homes sales director, Richard Lawson.

"We are helping to create new communities at new developments across South Wales, and it is important to us that we support local groups, schools and organisations here in any way we can. I'm delighted that we have been able to donate £1000 towards the renovation of Girlguiding's property in Porthcawl. We feel this is excellent use of our Community Fund."

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Resting at A.G. Adams Funeralcare until the service on Monday, 3rd February at 10am at Cardiff and Glamorgan Crematorium, Port Road, Barry.

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O'BRIEN
Patrick (Paddy)

After a long illness, Paddy passed peacefully on 27th December 2019. Beloved husband of the late Mary, adored father to Pam, Tony, Doreen, Paula and Fran, brother of Marie and Bridgeen, and loving grandfather to all his grandchildren.

The service will be held at Our Lady & St. Illtyd Church on Friday, 17th January 2020 at 1pm, followed by committal at Boverton Cemetary

Family flowers only, donations greatly appreciated to Parkinson's UK.

BARNES
Margaret Rose

Peacefully passed away at Llandough Hospital on 25th December 2019. Dearly loved mother of Coleen, mother-in-law of Clive and much loved grandmother of Lara and Nina.

As you rest in peaceful sleep,
Memories of you we shall always keep.

Funeral service will be held at 12 noon on Thursday, 23rd January 2020 at Coychurch Crematorium and afterwards at Llantwit Major Bowling Club.

Family flowers only please. Donations, if desired, to go to Cancer Research UK for lung cancer.

BRYCE
Susan Elisabeth

Peacefully on 5th January, Susan of Cowbridge; beloved wife of the late Ian, loving mother of Andrew and Fiona, step-mother to Peta and Charles and a much loved granny.

Will be sadly missed by her family and friends.

Funeral service to be held at Holy Cross Church, Cowbridge on Tuesday, 21st January at 12 noon.

Family flowers only. Donations, if so desired, for Alzheimer's Society c/o W.H. Preene & Son, Mwyndy, Pontyclun, CF72 8PN. Tel:01443 223368.

HARDING
Alan

Sadly passed away on 21st December 2019, aged 88 years. Beloved husband of Wendy. Loving dad of Dawn and Gail. Cherished grandad to Hollie, Ellis, and Thomas and adored great-grandad. Wonderful brother to Arthur and Sylvia.

Alan will be sadly missed by all his family and friends.

He will live on forever in our hearts.

Resting at A.G. Adams Funeralcare until the service on Friday, 24th January at 11am at Cardiff and Glamorgan Crematorium, Port Road, Barry.

Family flowers only please. Donations, if desired, in memory of Alan, may be made to British Heart Foundation at the service.

CLEMENTS
Lee John

Tragically on 23rd December 2019. Loving father, son and brother.

Lee will be sadly missed by all his family and friends.

Resting at A.G. Adams Funeralcare until the service on Wednesday, 22nd January at 10am at A.G. Adams Chapel of Rest, followed by interment at Barry Cemetery.

The family would like to invite you all to join them after the service at Brewers Fayre, Ffordd Y Mileniwm, Barry, CF62 5AB. Family flowers only please. Donations ,if desired, in memory of Lee, may be made to MIND via Just Giving at https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/leejohnclements or at the service.

The family request that in memory of Lee's love of Cardiff Blues, please wear something Blue's related or clothing that is blue.

HEALE
Raymond (Ray)

Sadly passed away on 7th January. Ray was a well known member of the community of Dinas Powys and will be sadly missed by family and friends.

He is resting at J. Pidgeon & Son Funeral Directors, Cowbridge Road, Canton until his service at Cardiff & Glamorgan Crematorium, Port Road, Barry on Friday, 24th January at 10am. Afterwards all welcome at The Three Horseshoes, Dinas Powys for a celebration of Ray's life.

BLACKIE
John

Passed away peacefully on 2nd January 2020, at University Hospital of Wales, with his family by his side.

Resting at A.G. Adams Funeralcare until the service followed by committal at Cardiff and Glamorgan Crematorium, Port Road, Barry.

Family flowers only please. Donations, if desired, in memory of John, may be made to Kidney Research UK at the service.

BAIRD
John Lawrence

Passed away peacefully on 21st December 2019, at Holme Towers, Penarth.

John will be missed by all his family and friends.

Resting at A.G. Adams Funeralcare until the service on Tuesday, 28th January at 2pm at Barry Cemetery.

SWALLOW
Doreen May

Sadly passed away at The University Hospital of Wales on 5th January, Doreen, beloved wife of the late Lionel, much loved mum of Pat and the late Mary. Loving grandmother of Andrew and his wife Lesley, great grandmother to her great-grandchildren.

Resting in the care of Lyndsay Ellis @ The Vale Funeral Service, Court Road, Barry until her service at St Helen's RC Church, Barry on Friday, 24th January at 1.15pm, followed by interment at Barry Cemetery.

Floral tributes may be sent to the funeral home.

GARDNER
John (84)

Peacefully passed away on 4th January. Beloved husband of Jean, loving father of Paul and Louise, father-in-law to Chris and Helen, much loved 'Grampy' to Emma, Kathryn, Laura and Rhys.

Resting at the Private Funeral Home of W. James & Sons, Fonmon. Funeral Monday, 20th January, service and cremation 10am at Cardiff and Glamorgan Crematorium, Barry.

Family flowers only, donations if desired to Parkinson's UK c/o the funeral director.

Forever in our hearts.

DAVIES
Graham Miles

Peacefully on 5tth January at the Princess of Wales Hospital, Graham, aged 82 years, of St. Mary's View, Coychurch. Dearly beloved husband of Margaret.

Graham will be sadly missed by his family and friends.

Funeral Monday, 20th January. Service and cremation at Coity Chapel, Coychurch Crematorium at 3.15pm. Family flowers only, donations in lieu may be made to Cancer Research Wales c/o Mel & Ron Watkins Funeral Services, 2, Hilda House, The Square, Pencoed, Bridgend. Tel: 01656 860545.

PITMAN
Linda Jane
(*née* Borge)

On 7th January, Linda, aged 68 years, passed away peacefully at home in the presence of her beloved husband 'Pip', daughters and granddaughters.

Linda will be greatly missed and forever in the hearts and thoughts of all who loved and cherished her.

The funeral service will be held at Cadoxton Methodist Church, Church Road, Barry on Tuesday, 21st January at 10.30am, followed by interment at Barry Cemetery (for immediate family).

Family flowers only, donations to Marie Curie will be greatfully accepted if anyone wishes to do so.

Family Notices

McSHANE
Ian

Passed peacefully at home on 31st December 2019. Much loved son to Bryan and Anna, loved father of Jamie and Louise, loved brother to Katrina, dear friend to Angela and adored grandfather to all of his grandchildren.

Ian will be greatly missed by all of his family and friends.

The service will be held at Coychurch Crematorium on Wednesday, 22nd January at 10am.

Family flowers only. Donations in memory of Ian will be gratefully received for the Bridgend Autistic Society.

No dress code, bright colours welcome.

BRICE
Reginald (Reg)

Suddenly but peacefully on 4th January at Llandough Hospital with his devoted wife Anne and loving son Jon at his bedside. Reg will be fondly remembered for his love and commitment to Wenvoe Petanque Boule Club and as an employee of 45 years with Royal Mail.

He will be greatly missed by all his family and many friends

Resting in the care of Lyndsay Ellis @ The Vale Funeral Service, Court Road, Barry until his service at Cardiff & Glamorgan Crematorium, Port Road, Barry on Friday, 31st January at 11am.

Family floral tributes only. Donations, if desired, may be made at the service to support C.O.P.D in memory of Reg.

JONES
John Trevor

Peacefully at home on 6th January, John, well known for his time within Barry & Vale mobile Library Service and devoted husband to Edna. Much loved dad of John, Gary & Hayley, cherished bampy of Aneurin, Katie, Ellie, Kyra, Caden, Theo and Ryan.

John will be greatly missed by all who knew and loved him.

Resting in the care of Lyndsay Ellis @ The Vale Funeral Service, Court Road, Barry until his service at Hope Church (Cadoxton Methodist Church), Barry on Wednesday, 29th January at 1.45pm

Followed by a private family committal service.

Family flowers only by request

Further enquires please contact 01446 407962.

LEWIS
Rowena

Suddenly at home on 25th December, Rowena, devoted wife to the late Ernest and much loved mum of Rhys, Keri and Greg. Special mother-in-law of Karen, Sarah and Becci, a cherished grandmother of Shaun, Aiden, Mollie, Sam, Jessie, Ollie and great grandmother to Louie. Loving aunty of Karen, Nigel and their families.

She will be so greatly missed by all who knew and loved her.

Resting in the care of Lyndsay Ellis @ The Vale Funeral Service, Court Road, Barry until her service at Cardiff & Glamorgan Crematorium, Port Road, Barry on Thursday, 23rd January at 11am.

Family floral tributes only please. Donations, if desired, may be made at the service to support Velindre Cancer Hospital, Whitchurch, Cardiff in memory of Rowena.

TO ADVERTISE YOUR SITUATIONS VACANT, FAMILY NOTICES, BIRTHDAYS, ANNIVERSARIES, ETC, Call Sue on **01446 774484**

Email: **sales@glamorgan-gem.co.uk**

Public Notice

JOHN VIVIAN BARRETT (Deceased)

Pursuant to the Trustee Act 1925 any persons having a claim against or an interest in the Estate of the aforementioned deceased, late of The Manor House St Hilary Cowbridge Vale of Glamorgan CF71 7DP (formerly of Larch Croft Penylan Road Aberthin Cowbridge Vale of Glamorgan CF71 7HB), who died on 24/12/2019, are required to send particulars thereof in writing to the undersigned Solicitors on or before 27/03/2020, after which date the Estate will be distributed having regard only to claims and interests of which they have had notice.

HOPKINS LAW
20 Windsor Place Cardiff CF10 3BY *T574973*

Goods Vehicle Operator's Licence

ISLAND SCAFFOLDING SERVICES LTD of UNIT 13 WOODHAM ROAD, BARRY, CF63 4JE is applying for a licence to use UNIT 13 WOODHAM ROAD, BARRY, CF63 4JE as an operating centre for 1 goods vehicle and 0 trailers.

Owners or occupiers of land (including buildings) near the operating centre(s) who believe that their use or enjoyment of that land would be affected, should make written representations to the Traffic Commissioner at Hillcrest House, 386 Harehills Lane, Leeds, LS9 6NF, stating their reasons, within 21 days of this notice. Representors must at the same time send a copy of their representations to the applicant at the address given at the top of this notice. A Guide to Making Representations is available from the Traffic Commissioner's office.

Goods Vehicle Operator's Licence

ANSTEE LANDSCAPES & TREE FELLING LTD trading as **Anstee Landscapes & Tree Felling Ltd** of **Willow Cottage, Treoes, Bridgend, CF35 5DL** is applying for a licence to use **29 Heol Ffaldau, Brackla Industrial Estate, Bridend, CF31 2AJ** as an operating centre for **5 goods vehicles and 5 trailers.** Owners or occupiers of land (including buildings) near the operating centre(s) who believe that their use or enjoyment of that land would be affected, should make written representations to the Traffic Commissioner at Hillcrest House, 386 Harehills Lane, Leeds, LS9 6NF, Stating their reasons, within 21 days of this notice. Representors must at the same time send a copy of their representations to the applicant at the address given at top of the top of this notice. A guide to making Representations is available from the Traffic Commissioners office.

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Situations Vacant

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Sully Indoor bowlers start their year in fine form

SULLY Indoor Bowls Club have had a brilliant beginning to 2020 with a week of success on the bowling green.

The first success was the fantastic achievement of Gerry White, Andrew Harvey, Rod Hudson and skip Ken McLeod, of Sully IBC who won the senior fours Welsh national title. The four now go on to represent Wales against the other UK countries at Llanelli in March for the honour of UK champions.

The Vale v Ogwr: The second success came on Wednesday last week when the newly formed O'60 side at Sully Stadium, the Vale travelled to Bridgend to play Ogwr in a championship game. This game was important to many of them, as they had not played any games outside of the Sully stadium and the experience gained would be most invaluable for their and the club's future success.

The game began as expected with some players taking time to adjust to the unfamiliar pace and surroundings of the green. While the learning period was going on the experience of players Paul Gray and Fred Phillips kept the scoreboard ticking over in the Vale's favour. The rink of P Gershenson, J Kirk, R Richards and skip John Best who appeared to be a Sully banker were up against an inspired home team who didn't allow the visitors a shot until the 7th end, and were holding a 7-0 lead; but the Vale rink fought back to be only one behind by the 10th end.

The comeback didn't last long as the Ogwr rink extended their lead to six by the 15th end; the Vale rink responded over the final ends losing out by just two shots 13-15.

The rink skipped by Graham Carlisle with Chris Bates, Tony Frowd and Chas Burton had a frustrating time with the game always close; but the odd mistake giving shots away cost the visitors dearly, finally losing 18-26. The rink of Bob Knight, John King, Bob Matthews and skip Fred Phillips were always in command winning 13 of the 21 ends to win by 11 shots: 19-8.

The highlight of the afternoon was the rink of Alun Rees, Terry Collins, Trevor Murphy and skip Paul Gray who demolished the opposition with some outstanding bowls, especially from skip Gray winning by 27 shots: 36-9. The Vale, although winning by 28 shots (86-58) and taking 10 points to Ogwr's four were disappointed not to get maximum points; but still an excellent result for their first season in the league.

Sully v Taff Ely: The championship side travelled to play Taff Ely at Pontypridd on Saturday to play on their three rink green. This fixture always causes the selectors a headache as two sessions have to be played, three morning games and three afternoon games; therefore selection is vital so that not too many changes have to made to the regular rink teams. With morning and afternoon sides picked Sully felt confident enough to repeat their performance of the reverse fixture, where they gained full points at Sully. This fixture always proves difficult and to win there is always a struggle. The morning games began as expected with all rinks finding the going tough; and by the fifth end the home side held a 14-9 lead. By the end of the 10th the Sully boys were beginning to find their length and line and had gone into the lead by a single shot.

The Sully players were now beginning to turn the screw and the rinks skipped by Ken McLeod and Brian Griffiths had advantages of 17-10 and 18-10 respectively, while Dave Curtis' rink was sharing the spoils at 12 apiece allowing the visitors an excellent 15 shot advantage with six ends to play.

If Sully were expecting an easy run in they were to get a shock, as the home side rallied strongly with all rinks fighting for their wins. The visitors, although under tremendous pressure, managed to maintain the upper hand winning by 10 shots. Rink scores (Sully first): P Gershenson/P Hocking/C Collins/D Curtis 18 v 15; M Matthews/J Best/R Hudson/K McLeod 23 v 22; A Thomas/B Gist/S Close/B Griffiths 24 v 18.

The afternoon Sully team had the rare luxury of turning up to see the scoreboard in their favour. Experience will tell you not to take things at face value as games can change very quickly, and this was beginning to look ominous when the Sully rink of D Parker/A Morgan/R Richards and Chris Ackland were 8-1 behind at the 5th end and an 18-1 deficit by the end of the 10th.

The rink of M Jones/K Agius/C Williams and Martin Clarke-Squires were faring better just holding their opponents at the 10th with one shot advantage. Fortunately, the Sully rink of G White/C Leaden/F Phillips and Andrew Harvey were in fantastic form from the outset and raced into a 15 shot lead by the 10th end: 20-5.

At this juncture, Sully were four ahead in the afternoon and 14 ahead overall. During the second half of the afternoon, the game began to change on all rinks with Martin Clarke-Squires' rink taking a six shot advantage into the 16th end and Chris Ackland doing his now customary recovery mode picking up seven shots to be 8-19 behind.

The major concern was the turnaround on the rink of Andrew Harvey who, from being 15 shots ahead found their lead reduced to nine shots going into the 16th end; but Sully were still 16 shots ahead overall at this point. Sully had to concentrate hard over the final ends as the home side gathered momentum, and while the rinks of Harvey and Clarke-Squires were struggling to maintain the initiative, Ackland's rink continued their fightback by turning their deficit to just four shots at the close, for a very spirited comeback.

Clarke-Squires' rink had to fight to the last end, making shot on the final end to win 26-25 while Harvey's rink continued to struggle over the final ends eventually ending with a disappointing draw 21-21.

Sully had done enough to win the overall game by seven shots 131-124 taking 19 points to Taff Ely's three points.

The next championship game is away to Newport on Saturday, February 25, so will all players who are available please place their names on the availability sheet at the club.

FP

Bridgend Athletic RFC Mini and Junior round-up

THE Athletic under 16s reaching the semi-final of the Ospreys's Cup highlighted another successful weekend for the Athletic Mini and Junior section, with the minis able to mostly field at least two sides in each age group.

Under 7: The first game after the Christmas lay off saw the under 7s on a trip up the valley to play Nantymoel. With a great turn out in the cold conditions the Ath put out two teams with subs and carried on from where they left off before Christmas with some great tries on display. Lots of determination on display in defence also.

This week's 'Player of Week' was Theo Williams who showed some excellent agility to score some fantastic solo and team tries.

Under 8: Bridgend Athletic under 8s took two teams to Pontypridd. Three games in total were played on the 4G pitch at Sardis Road against Pontypridd Aberdare and St Albans.

Strong direct running shown by Sam Francis and Billy Creed with Zavier Gardener, Charlie Tune and Callum Brown linking up well and moving the ball wide in attack. Next the under 8s host Aberavon Greenstars at Newbridge Fields.

Under 10: Bridgend Athletic under 10s hosted Bryncoch at Newbridge Fields. This was the first meeting between the two teams. The game started slowly with both sides making errors; however, it didn't take the Ath long to get into their rhythm. Due to the Ath having a squad of 24 players available the whole team was changed at half time giving all players the same amount of game time. The Ath outscored Bryncoch 7 tries to 2, try scorers were Osian Kenny, Rory Whyte, Billy Evans, Regan Henly, Rudi Quinn, Ethan Davies and Dylan Hopkins. Big well done to Artin Navidi on his Bridgend Athletic debut. Final score: Bridgend Athletic 35-10 Bryncoch

Under 11: The 11s travelled to Nantymoel this week with good numbers again. The first half was difficult for both sides with tough conditions under foot forcing a number of unforced errors for both teams. A scrappy first half saw the ATH with a slender 5 points to nil lead at the break.

The coaches' words were certainly taken on board at half time with the Ath tearing the opposition apart in the second half, playing the basics faultlessly and easing away with what was an impressive performance. Albert who brought aggression and dominated possession within the forwards, earned himself Man of the Match. Final score: Nantymoel 5, Ath 55.

Ath try scorers: Oliver Williams (3), Theo (2), Jackson (2) and single touchdowns for Evan, Chaitu, Harry and Rhys.

Under 15: Llandaff away today, a first for the Ath under 15s. Good turnout for an away game. Bit of a muddy pitch – well quite a bit in truth, but no issue for the Ath as they faced uphill and kicked off.

It was all about trying to gain ground for 10 minutes with Llandaff having the better of the territory but the Ath tackling well to keep their line intact. Eventually it was Llandaff who opened the scoring with a try in the corner after several pick and goes.

It wasn't long before Llandaff doubled their lead with a try down the opposite wing, started in their 22, although the team will be disappointed that their runner beat several would-be tacklers for the score. At this stage there would have been concerns that we could come unstuck here, but McKenzie saw an opportunity as they tried to shift the muddy ball across the line and intercepted to score a converted try. It was an attritional game and evenly matched, so it was disappointing when Llandaff sneaked in for a third try down the wing to lead 15-7 at half time.

There was no further scoring in the second half as both teams slogged it out on the muddy pitch, both tackling well but finding it hard work to make any forward progress.

Under 16: The Ath 16s lost out to Trebanos in the semi-final of the Ospreys Cup at under 15, so when the draw pitched the same sides together at the quarter final stage the players wanted to settle the score.

The Athletic pack paved the way holding out an aggressive driving maul from the Trebanos 8, allowing the Athletic backs to counterattack from distance. A hat trick from Gus Patterson and a single touchdown from Tom Clarke, with two Evan Beach conversions saw the Athletic exact full revenge with a 26-0 victory.

From the off, the Ath were under pressure but defended superbly and kept Trebanos out on numerous occasions from crossing their line and counter attacking at every occasion resulting in Gus Patterson touching down first and Evan Beach converting. With the Ath on the wrong side of many referee decisions most of the time the Ath showed great maturity to stick to the game plan with the halftime score 0-7.

The Ath picked up the tempo and physicality in the second half with the forwards carrying well and making good yards. More impressive was the way the Ath pack defended the Trebanos driving maul stopping it every time. With a great team effort and turn over balls the Ath were relentless in their counter attacks and from their own 22 the Ath released their backs running in 3 tries through Tom Clarke and Gus Patterson 2 completing his hattrick and Evan Beach converting 2. With lots of decisions going against the Ath and Trebanos kicking for the corner for the driving lineout, the Ath defended heroically keeping Trebanos out. Final score: Trebanos 0, Bridgend 26.

The Ath coaches were very pleased with the team's heroic defence and fantastic decision-making way beyond their age, and their determined attitude and commitment on the day.

ABOVE: BARFC U16 Winners of Ospreys Cup.

BELOW: The U8 team

More success for YMCA Barry tumblers

YMCA Barry Gymnastics Club celebrated success at the Welsh Tumble League competition, where gymnastic tumblers from all across Wales competed.

Barry Gymnastics have only recently begun competing in tumbling, and the results have already been fantastic. All completed three gymnastics tumbles and the three scores are combined to determine the final positions. The youngest competitors were within the six year old category; they competed with maturity and impressed the judges.

Xavier Blayney placed sixth overall, Reagan Gill received second overall and Corey Loxton became the age six Welsh Tumble League champion. As a team Xavier, Reagan and Corey worked tremendously together and claimed the Silver team medal where all the scores were combined.

Moving onto the seven-year-old category, Dylan Maciver had a fantastic competition and Dylan became the seven year old Welsh champion.

In the eight to nine year old competition, Ethan Williams and Fred Sewell competed against a vast number of gymnasts and Fred earned fifth overall; Ethan earned second overall.

The 10 to 11 years category also did not disappoint: Rowan Merrett earned second and Tom Compton became the overall Welsh Tumble champion. Furthermore, Tom had the highest combined score across three separate Tumble League competitions and received the Foundation Boys' League Trophy. Tom will now keep his title for the next year.

Bradley Thomas was exceptional in the 8 to 9 years development category, putting together three dynamic tumbles, and became overall champion.

YMCA Barry Gymnastics entered three gymnasts into the inclusive gymnastics categories for the first time and the gymnasts again, performed superbly and impressed judges, coaches and parents.

Within the inclusive categories Aneurin Yorke became the male seven year old Welsh Tumble League champion, Alexis Sherlock became the 8 to 9 years female champion and Dylan Leek became the male 8 to 9 champion.

The club has been competing for less than a year and to have seven Welsh champions is outstanding. This is a fantastic achievement for all the gymnasts and their coach Gareth Slocombe, who has also been shortlisted for the 'Gym For All Coach of the Year' at the Welsh Gymnastics Awards, for his commitment to ensuring all gymnasts of all ability can enjoy gymnastics. Megan Cooke who is also a coach at YMCA Barry is shortlisted for 'Community Coach of the Year', as well as YMCA Barry Gymnastics Club being shortlisted for 'Club for the Year'.

Brynhill mourns loss of oldest member

BRYNHILL said goodbye to one of its favourite sons on Tuesday, January 7, when the lovely Fred Clissett was laid to rest at Barry Crematorium.

The club's oldest and longest-serving member began his association with the club 70-odd years ago as greenkeeper, honing his golfing skills in his spare time.

Fred went on to win, amongst many other things, the prestigious Greenkeepers Cup at Royal Porthcawl.

A wonderful raconteur, he'd often regale the bar with tales of dubious validity, about ditches being laid on the seventh to stop the Luftwaffe landing Fokkers on it during the War or how he buried a Volkswagen Beetle under the ninth green.

In these days of pampered pros, many of whom wouldn't step on the first tee without having a full body massage and a session with a sports psychologist, it's worth remembering Freddy once stuck both his own and his mate's clubs over his shoulders, jumped on the back of a motorbike, drove to Halifax, won the competition before hopping back on the bike and driving back to Barry.

RIP Fred – they broke the mould when they made you.

Alan Sweeny

Send us your stories, letters, photos and sports reports

Veganuary? No problem with these easy recipes!

VEGANUARY is a campaign that encourages people to try a vegan diet in January and throughout the year.

Whether you're a fully-fledged vegan or an intrigued vegan novice, we have your back. Our selection of vegan recipes will help you commit to a delicious month of vegan dishes. For a tempting savoury dish, why not try **Chantenay carrot Thai-style satay stirfry**? It serves two, has a preparation time of five minutes and a cooking time of 12 minutes, handy when you're in a hurry.

You'll need:
3 tbsp peanut butter
3 tbsp sweet chilli sauce
2 tbsp soy sauce
300g straight to wok noodles
1 tbsp oil
1 thumb-sized piece ginger, peeled and grated
3 garlic cloves
150g – 200g Chantenay carrots, sliced
300g green stir-fry vegetables
1 small handful basil leaves
25g roasted peanuts, roughly chopped

What to do:

Mix the peanut butter, chilli sauce, 100ml water and soy sauce to make a smooth sauce.

Put the noodles in a bowl and pour boiling water over them. Stir gently to separate, then drain thoroughly.

Heat the oil in a large frying pan, then stir-fry the ginger, garlic and Chantenay carrots for two minutes.

Add the rest of the veg, then stir-fry over a high heat for 1-2 mins until the vegetables are just cooked.

Add the noodles and stir-fry for another minute or so.

For something warming, try **Isle of Wight Tomato Vegan Curry**. It serves four, has a preparation time of 10 minutes and takes 35 minutes to cook.

You'll need:
500g tomatoes
3 tbsp vegetable oil
2 garlic cloves, crushed
2 tbsp grated ginger
1 thinly sliced red onion
1 deseeded and chopped red chilli
1 tsp lightly crushed fennel seeds
½ tsp paprika
½ tsp turmeric
1 tsp ground cumin
1 tsp ground coriander
12 curry leaves
400g cherry tomatoes
400g can chickpeas, drained and rinsed
100ml vegetable stock or water

What to do:

Cover the tomatoes with boiling water in a bowl and leave for 3 minutes. Drain, cover with cold water, then peel off the skins and then chop the tomatoes.

Heat the oil in a frying pan. Add the garlic and ginger. Fry for a minute then add the onion and chilli. Fry gently until soft and then add the spices and fry for 2 minutes.

Add the chopped tomatoes, curry leaves and stock or water. Simmer for 10-15 minutes on a medium heat until thickened – add a little extra water if it's too dry. Add the cherry tomatoes and chickpeas, season and simmer for 5 minutes until the cherry tomatoes are soft but still holding their shape.

Scatter with fresh coriander and serve with coconut yoghurt and mango chutney, rice and chapatis if you like!

Who doesn't like something sweet? The **Berry World Crumble Traybake** is crumbly and fruity, the perfect traybake for picnics, snacks or lunch boxes. The recipe makes 18 bars, has a preparation time of 20 minutes and a cooking time of 40 minutes.

You'll need:

For the filling: 400g red gooseberries, trimmed, 200g sugar, 1½ tbsp cornflour.

For the crumble:
300g self-raising flour
200g porridge oats
250g vegan sunflower spread
175g muscovado sugar
100g pumpkin seeds
1tbsp agave or maple syrup, optional

What to do:

First make the filling. Put the gooseberries, sugar and cornflour in a saucepan on a medium heat and bring to a simmer. Cook, stirring occasionally 8-10 minutes until the sugar has dissolved and the juices become thick and jammy. Set aside.

Heat the oven to 190C/170C fan and line an oven dish approximately 18cm x 25cm with greaseproof paper.

In a bowl, combine the flour, oats and spread in a bowl and rub together with your fingers. Gently break up the spred until the mixture looks like coarse crumbs.

Stir in the muscovado sugar and pumpkin seeds, again using your fingers to break up the lumps of sugar, then tip half of the mixture into the prepared oven dish and press down firmly with your hands.

Spread the berry mixture over the base then top with the rest of the crumble and press down again, as firmly as you can without squishing the fruit out. If using, drizzle the top with syrup then bake for 35-40 minutes until golden.

Allow to cool in the dish then cut into 18 bars and keep in an airtight tin.

This recipe works with any berries such as strawberries, raspberries or blackcurrants.

A Chantenay carrot Thai-style stirfry is perfect when you need a quick dish.

This Isle of Wight Tomato Vegan Curry is a winter warmer.

The Berry World Crumble Traybake is packed full of berries and is great for lunchboxes and picnics.

Two very busy months for camera club

THE November programme at Barry Camera Club started with a visit from Oliver Herbold, a talented photographer and software engineer born and raised in Germany.

He shoots a lot of architecture, low light, portrait, landscape and nature photography but his presentation to us was on long exposure photography.

Compared to most of our speakers, Oliver is a newcomer to the hobby but he has certainly made up for that in the quantity of work he has produced! He showed some examples of his early work and how he wasn't happy with the results; but when he discovered long exposures gave a dynamism and a sense of flow and movement to an image, he knew he had found his niche.

He demonstrated how a long exposure can be used in gathering light when there is little, smoothing out motion and enabling reflections on rippled water, making passers-by disappear in a shot and creating a sense of movement in clouds.

Expounding on his maxim "longer is not necessarily better", and that there is an optimum time to give the effect needed, depending on the shot, he rounded off the evening giving examples of before and after with his workflow in Lightroom and Photoshop.

This was a very inspiring and informative talk which engendered a lot of audience interaction and was well appreciated by the members.

On November 8, we were given a talk at the club by Nick Jenkins AWPF, ARPS entitled 'My Journey Into The Landscape'.

Nick is a prolific landscape photographer; he undertakes professional contracts in all genres but his main love is the landscape. He started with pictures taken during his visits to Iceland showing the bleak, volcanic landscapes, the small picturesque churches and some very interesting long exposure shots of Aurora Borealis, the Northern Lights, many of them shown in the portrait format.

From Iceland we moved south to the Lake District where Nick showed us in photographs how a change in the physical position one shoots from has a huge impact on the final print. Following on from the Lake District he showed work taken in the Elan Valley, Brecon Beacons, Dartmoor and Nash Point on the Heritage Coast using polarising filters to emphasise the blue in the skies and neutral density filters to block out some light and allow long exposures to create the visual effect of the flow in the sea.

Nick's final, and perhaps most important message to us, was that there are no rules in landscape photography and if you like it – that's fine! Just do it!

A very interesting night with some thought-provoking work.

On November 15 we travelled to Rhiwbina Camera club for a three-way battle with Rhiwbina and Merthyr Camera Clubs and following a strong showing from all three we were very pleased to come out with a win.

November 22 was a 'members' evening' at the club where led by Phil Stilman we blacked out the room and experimented with 'light painting' using sparklers, coloured gels, light trails and shadows. This was quite an eventful evening and it will be interesting to see what results the members have come up with!

The last Friday of the month is always dedicated to our monthly competition and as ever the entries were split into three groups: colour prints, monochrome prints and projected images. Our judge was Les Loosemore. He made awards as follows:

Colour Prints: First prize and 20 points went to Philippa Evans for 'Mr Kingfisher'. Second prize and 19 points to Roy Carr for 'Dawn At The Pier', and third prize with 18 points again to Roy for his 'Autumn Falls'.

Monochrome Prints: First prize and 20 points went to Pat Hollis for 'Alone', second prize and 19 points to Roy Carr for 'Tees Transporter' and third place with 18 points to Kathy Edwards for 'Best of Friends'.

Projected Images: True to form the biggest entry was for projected images – not all members have the capability to make prints from their images. The standard was just as high and Les finally arrived at these final placings: First prize and 20 points to Heulwen Roberts for 'The Meeting Place', second prize and 19 points to Roy Carr for a landscape shot entitled 'Through The Valley – Glencoe' and third place with 18 points to Neil Davies for 'Bay Day'.

Congratulations to the prizewinners this month, once again a strong showing from the lady members, especially Heulwen for her first place in the projected images section.

As always, December was a 'short month' for us with only two meetings. On the 6th several members braved the weather and had an evening's photography in Barry town centre, concentrating on low light photography of the shops, civic architecture and the Christmas lights on King Square.

December 13 wrapped up our year with a visit from Gerald Davies with a presentation of his landscape photography. Gerald is a much-travelled photographer but for this evening he restricted his presentation to pictures taken in Wales, Scotland and Iceland. Concentrating on water in the landscape, Gerald showed pictures of waterfalls, lakes, rivers and delicately toned seascapes taken using a variety of shutter speeds; the slow shutter speeds seeming to smooth out the flow of the water and faster shutter speeds emphasising the detail and splashes.

Thank you, Gerald, for a very interesting evening.

Throughout 2020 we have a full programme of talks, demonstrations, photographic expeditions, competitions and inter-club battles planned.

Barry Camera Club meets every Friday evening from 7pm to 9.30pm at St Francis Millennium Centre, Porth-y-Castell, Barry Garden Suburb, Barry, CF62 6NX. We are a very friendly organisation and new members of all experience and skill levels are always welcome to attend with no obligation to join. Alternatively, for more information visit our website www.barrycameraclub.co.uk or check out our Facebook and Twitter pages.

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Back to business for WI group

THE first meeting of Laleston WI took place on January 2 when various items of interest were brought to the attention of members from The County Letter.

Names and deposits were taken of members wishing to go to the annual lunch on February 18 at St Mary Hill Golf Club. Monthly luncheon club is Poco Poco, Bridgend on January 14.

Several games of Hoy Bingo was then played, which was good fun and small prizes were given to winning members.

There is now a seat in the bus shelter near The Great House which had been requested by Laleston WI from Laleston Community Council.

The next meeting is on February 6 when the speaker will be from Shout Crisis Charity. Visitors are welcome to join the meetings held on the first Thursday of each month at 7.15pm at The Blandy Hall, Laleston. For more information, contact Diane Marshall on 01656 656600.

Jack and the Beanstalk

THE brilliant Gerry Graham's pantomime returned to Llantwit Major on January 3 with two performances of *Jack and The Beanstalk*.

The touring pantomime performed to a full house for both matinee and evening shows.

It was a laugh a minute, and filled with audience participation. At only £5 a ticket, residents were able to enjoy a professional show on their doorstep. Feedback has been positive, with many audience members saying that they are looking forward to returning next year.

Llantwit Major Town Council sponsored the event and have confirmed that next year's show will be *Beauty and the Beast*, coming to Llantonian Hall in January 2021.

New Peugeot 208 GT gets a thumbs up on size and handling

THIS is my first review of 2020 – so let me start with saying I wish you all a very Happy New Year.

Right, now that's out the way, let's get on with this week's review of the new-look Peugeot 208 GT Line.

But, before I do, I just wanted to say that over the Christmas & New Year period, I spoke to a lot of people at various shows and celebrations and one of the topics that constantly came up was EVs.

Many people have told me that this year they are ditching their petrol engine vehicles and are instead going out to buy their first EV.

So, to align with this – I plan on testing a lot more EVs throughout 2020 which I hope will help you decide if you want to join the 'green revolution' or like me, you think we're just not quite there yet and you would rather wait a little bit longer.

Power and Efficiency:

The 1.2-litre PureTech petrol engine has a 0-62 time of around 9.9 seconds and a top speed of 117mph. Fuel consumption is good, giving a combined figure of 53mpg. So: how well does it get a move on? Well, it moves along quite nicely. That 1.2 petrol engine is smooth; the 6-speed gearbox is slick, and the gear changes are direct and firm.

On the road:

The 100PS engine was enthusiastic and pretty much purred its way along. Into the corners the chassis felt poised and tight, even when dealing with our worst roads. Plus, when the tarmac gets twisty, the 208 is fun to drive; it's a little corker, giving you maximum grip in and out of every corner. The steering also felt direct and perfectly balanced, with plenty of feedback on what all four corners are doing at any given time.

Interior & Technology:

I'm so glad to see that the designers at Peugeot have finally paid a lot of attention to the detail inside the cabin of the new 208 – it's now refreshing and modern. The seats are comfy, once you get the correct adjustment. When it comes to the boot – the space is OK, with more room than I expected there to be. Trust me on this – you will be very surprised just how much you can fit in. Rear legroom was also not bad.

On the inside:

There's plenty of standard equipment, which included fitting in a family with minimal effort. Plus: 17" 'Camden' diamond-cut two-tone alloy wheels, gloss black wheel arch extensions, GT Line badging, active safety brake, ABS with EBD, Thatcham Category 1 approved alarm, ESP with Hill Start Assist, Peugeot i-Cockpit 7" colour touchscreen, DAB radio & 6-speakers, automatic headlights and tyre pressure sensors.

To find out more, visit www.peugeot.co.uk.

To sum up:

I like the new 208 because of its practicability, plus it's a hoot to drive. It also has bags of power for a small car, along with plenty of space on the inside.

Price: from £20,700 OTR.

Review by Tony Yates

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A sad farewell to racing's Dillwyn Thomas

WELSH point-to-point racing has lost one of its greatest characters with the death of Bridgend farmer Dillwyn Thomas who during his long life, owned, bred and trained many point-to-point winners.

As it says on the blurb of his excellent book *A View From The Main Ring – A Farmer's Journey*, which he published with the help of author and journalist Gaina Morgan in 2013, farmer and horse breeder Dillwyn Thomas has been centre stage in his role as a Royal Welsh Agricultural Honorary Director in horses main ring, display and commentaries.

This year, the Prince of Wales presented him with a Silver Armada dish to mark his retirement.

The Queen presented him with the RWAS Life Vice Presidency in 2004.

I knew Dillwyn and his late wife Barbara for more than half a century, and in my role as a point-to-point racing correspondent, I had the pleasure of reporting on the many winners they trained over the years.

Barbara would often deputise for me when I was unable to attend a meeting or when there were two Welsh point-to-points – one in west Wales and one in south Wales – held on the same day in the good old days of Welsh hunt-racing.

Barbara was a leading rider in her own right and there is a picture of her in my book *The Races Came Off – The story of point-to-point racing in South and West Wales*, when as Barbara Staien, she won the Ladies' Welsh Grand National on Drake at St Athan in 1948.

Another picture in the book shows Dillwyn, along with Jackie Savage and Denzil Jenkins, with winners *Cariff Princess* and *Cefn Fancy*.

The late Rose Harry of Dinas Powys also won on Dillwyn's *Cariff Princess* which was a regular runner at Penllyn when racing was held there in the 1950s.

Some hunt-racing enthusiasts from the Vale will remember another good winner of Dillwyn's – a chestnut gelding called *Summer Days 11*, which was partnered by the late Edmund Roberts.

Another successful point-to-pointer of the Thomases was the bay mare *Cefn Duchess*, also ridden by Edmund Roberts.

Cariff Princess, owing to printers' errors, often appeared on the racecard as '*Cardiff Princess*'.

A winner of an Irish point-to-point, she was hunted with the Worcestershire pack for two or three seasons and Mr Thomas obtained her at the Ascot Sales for just 40 guineas.

Dillwyn, who was MFH of the Llangeinor Hunt for ten years, trained around 200 winners all told, and many of them were ridden by Tim Vaughan, Dai Jones and Paul Hamer.

He had about 20 stallions standing at his stud over the years and one, *Haven*, was runner-up in the Irish Derby when ridden by the famed Lester Piggott.

Some other good point-to-pointers he trained were *Daisy Miller, Cefn Soloman, Light Steel* and *Threes A Crowd.*

In 1971, Dillwyn and Barbara presented trophies which go to the leading Welsh riders every year so their names will be remembered by those riders who are awarded them at the end of each season.

If you would like to know more about Dillwyn and Barbara Thomas, then get hold of a copy of Gaina Morgan's book.

Adam's Wetherby double

Adam Wedge, stable jockey to Llancarfan's Evan Williams, had a double at Wetherby on January 11 riding the odds-on favourite ***Coconut Splash*** for Williams.

He took the opening maiden hurdle, beating the Jonjo O'Neill-trained *Bean In Trouble* by two-and-a-half lengths.

Later in the day, he partnered Kerry Lee's *Ice Cool Champs* to a 10-lengths win over *Virnon* in the handicap chase.

Nine-year-old *Ice Cold Chance*, a 9-1 chance, was racing in public for the first time in 323 days.

BRIAN LEE

Too many yellow cards, but a win for Athletic

AFTER remaining unbeaten in winning Ospreys Youth C East league and gaining promotion before Christmas, Bridgend Athletic Youth warmed up with a friendly away at Llandaff North before starting their Ospreys Div B campaign this Saturday at home to Kenfig Hill.

Both sides tried to make light of a gluepot pitch by attempting to play attractive dry day rugby. It was the Athletic who had the cutting-edge players on the day, running out 1–0 victors with three well-worked tries.

Centre Callum Reed was one such and made an early break, but was held inside the Llandaff North 22. Athletic wing George Tellem then chased back a difficult kick and showed skill in turning defence into attack. Prop Elliot Key won a line out inside his own 22 and fooled the opposition with a dummy, before showing great pace to reach the Llandaff 22 before being overhauled.

A combination of good home side defending and the Athletic conceding a high penalty count kept the game scoreless until the 25th minute. Athletic scrum half Thom Lewis took a quick penalty on the home 22 and quick passing involving Ryan Neagle and Tom Reed saw lock Morgan Thomas power over under the posts. Rhys Williams converted.

Athletic flanker Josh Llewellyn was yellow carded shortly after for a late tackle. This sparked an intense eight minutes of Llandaff pressure inside the Athletic 22. The Athletic pack, with strong tackles from Brandyn Fooks, Ben Owen and Ryan Neagle again showed why the team had only conceded four tries in seven league games. To the delight of defence coach Paul Yardley, the team weathered the storm to lead 7-0 at half time.

The Athletic introduced Keegan Thomas, Harrison Morgan and Josh Tidy at the start of the second half. Centre Tom Reed broke into the Llandaff 22 and when the move was cleared, Athletic wing Tom Davies collected the kick and passed to lock Morgan Thomas who ran like a wing for 40 metres along the touchline before throwing an inside scoring pass to Rhys Williams to cross and then convert his own try.

Davies then pushed an opponent off the ball which sparked an over-reaction which was out of character for the game and saw players from all parts of the field race to become involved. Davies and his opposite number were yellow carded when the dust settled, and when a minute later Athletic hooker Ben Owen questioned a refereeing decision, he became the third Athletic player to visit the sin bin.

The Athletic were now playing some very good rugby with Morgan Thomas, Morgan Bennett, Michael Gillette and Ryan Neagle handling well at forward and centres Tom and Callum Reed with full back Luke Thomas trying training ground moves in difficult handling conditions.

Bennett broke clear from one move and with great pace ran around several defenders on an unstoppable 40-metre run to the try line. Unusually Williams was a little too long with his conversion and saw it charged down.

There was no further scoring with the Athletic again locking out Llandaff and registering a hard earned 19–0 and moral-boosting victory ahead of their new league campaign.

Ath coach Huw Lewis was pleased with the effort – especially the second half when the team started stringing together training ground moves. He picked out for special mention in the pack flanker Ryan Neagle, captaining the side for the first time, who led from the front with locks Morgan Bennett and Morgan Thomas also outstanding. The Reed brothers centres Callum and Tom were the pick of the backs.

He said: "As coaches we need to instil the need for discipline giving away far too many silly penalties and for the team to leave the talking to the referee to the team captain. If we replicate this it will cost us in our Ospreys B League campaign."

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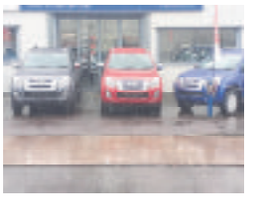

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18 18 MAZDA 6 2.0 Sport Nav 4dr, MAZDA Warranty until 2021, sat nav, bose, 19"alloys, 14k, white, full leather **£15495**

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13 62 MAZDA CX-5 2.2 D Sport 5dr, sat nav, reverse camera, grey, full leather **£8995**

16 66 MAZDA MX-5 1.5 SE 2dr Convertible, alloys, usb, aux, met red **£9995**

16 66 MINI COOPER 1.5 D 5dr, Mini warranty Dec 2019, air-con, Bluetooth, aux, usb, 25k, white **£8795**

16 66 MINI COOPER 1.5 5dr, cruise, 17"black alloys, privacy glass, 36k, white silver, half-leather **£9995**

16 66 MINI COOPER 2.0 S D 3dr Automatic, media pack xl – sat nav, cruise, privacy glass, 34k, grey **£12995**

16 66 NISSAN JUKE 1.5 dCi N-Connecta 5dr, sat nav, reverse camera, choice **£8995**

17 67 NISSAN QASHQAI 1.5 DCI Tekna 5dr, sat nav, pan roof, 19k, met blue, full leather **£15495**

14 64 NISSAN QASHQAI 1.5 dCi Acenta 5dr, cruise, aux, usb, 17"alloys, blue **£7495**

16 66 NISSAN QASHQAI 1.5 DCI N-Connecta 5dr, pan roof, sat nav, reverse camera, choice **£10495**

14 64 NISSAN QASHQAI 1.5 dCi Acenta 5dr, cruise, aux, usb, 17"alloys, blue **£7495**

16 16 NISSAN QASHQAI 1.5 DCI N-Connecta 5dr, pan roof, sat nav, reverse camera, 33k, Met Blue **£10995**

16 66 NISSAN X-TRAIL 1.6 DCI Acenta 5dr 4wd (7-Seater), pan roof, 26k, grey **£12995**

18 68 NISSAN NAVARA Double Cab Pick Up Tekna 2.3dCi 190 4WD Automatic, Nissan warranty Sept 2021, sat nav, reverse camera, black, full leather ..... **£17995+VAT**

18 18 PEUGEOT 2008 1.2 PureTech 110 GT Line 5dr EAT6, Peugeot warranty April 2021, apple car play, sat nav, pan roof, 8k, grey **£13995**

18 68 PORSCHE MACAN 2.0 T 4WD 5dr PDK, pan roof, 21"turbo alloys, BOSE, comfort memory pack, heated seats, LED lights, huge spec, in black with full leather **£47995**

18 18 RENAULT CLIO 0.9 TCE 90 Urban Nav 5dr, Renault warranty March 2022, sat nav, Bluetooth, pdc, 3k, blue **£9495**

17 67 SEAT LEON 1.6 TDI SE Dynamic Technology 5dr DSG Automatic, Seat warranty until December 2020, sat nav, cruise, 8k, grey **£11495**

17 67 VAUXHALL ADAM 1.4 I 100 Slam 3dr, tech pack, 17"alloys, Bluetooth, 13k, red **£7995**

16 66 VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.6 CDTI SRI 5dr, Vauxhall warranty Oct 2019, cruise, Bluetooth, dab, 19k, grey **£8795**

15 65 VAUXHALL MOKKA 1.6 CDTi ecoFLEX SE 5dr, heated seats, privacy glass, 33k, blue, full leather **£8495**

16 66 VW GOLF 2.0 TDI GTD 3dr DSG Automatic, sat nav, 19"alloys, heated seats, 27k, grey, full leather **£16995**

17 67 VW PASSAT 1.4 TSI GTE Estate DSG Automatic (215bhp), sat nav, heated seats, 18"alloys, black, half-leather **£18495**

19 19 VOLVO V40 1.5 T3 R-Design Edition 5dr Automatic (152bhp), Volvo warranty April 2022, sat nav, pan roof, reverse camera, only 730 miles in black, full leather **£18995**

18 68 VOLVO V60 2.0 D4 (190) Momentum Estate Automatic, Volvo warranty Dec 2021, sat nav, heated seats, 10k, black **£21495**

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17 17 MERCEDES A160 AMG Line 5dr Auto, Mercedes warranty July 2020, night package, rev camera, 26k, white, half leather……**£16495**

16 66 MERCEDES A180 1.5 D AMG Line Premium 5dr, sat nav, cruise, parktronic, 32k, red **£14495**

16 66 MERCEDES A180 D AMG Line 5dr, xenons, cruise, 18"alloys, grey....**£12995**

18 18 MERCEDES A180 D Sport Executive 5dr Automatic, Mercedes warranty Aug 2021, sat nav, cruise, dab, 9k, choice....**£18495**

18 18 MERCEDES A180 D AMG Line Premium 5dr Automatic, Mercedes warranty Aug 2021, sat nav, reverse camera, 6k, silver, half-leather **£20995**

18 68 MERCEDES A180 D AMG Line 5dr Automatic, Mercedes warranty Oct 2021, sat nav, reverse camera, dab, 15k, choice, half-leather **£19795**

18 18 MERCEDES A200 D Sport Executive 5dr Automatic, Mercedes warranty March 2021, sat nav, usb, reverse camera, 16k, silver **£15995**

18 18 MERCEDES A200 D Sport Edition Plus 5dr Automatic, Mercedes warranty July 2021, pan roof, sat nav, reverse camera, 6k, black **£17995**

18 68 MERCEDES A200 1.3 Sport 5dr Automatic, Mercedes warranty Sep 2021, sat nav, rev cam, 5k, met grey, half leather …**£19495**

18 68 MERCEDES A200d AMG Line Premium Plus 5dr Automatic, Mercedes Warranty until November 2021, pan roof, sat nav, 3k, black, half leather....**£21795**

15 15 MERCEDES A220 CDI AMG Sport 5dr Automatic, night pack, pan roof, sat nav, silver, full leather....**£13495**

16 66 MERCEDES C43 4Matic Premium 2dr Coupe Automatic, pan roof, sat nav, reverse camera, cruise, 22k, white, half-leather **£29995**

16 65 MERCEDES C200 AMG Line 2dr Coupe Automatic, heated seats, 26k, black, full leather....**£19995**

18 18 MERCEDES C200 Sport Premium 4dr 9G-Tronic Automatic, Mercedes warranty May 2021, pan roof, sat nav, heated seats, 15k, choice, full leather....**£19495**

18 67 MERCEDES C200 AMG Line 2dr Convertible Auto, Mercedes warranty March 2021, 19"alloys, sat nav, 9k, silver, full leather **£22995**

18 68 MERCEDES C200 Sport Premium Plus 4dr 9G-Tronic Automatic, Mercedes warranty Oct 2021, pan roof, sat nav, reverse camera, 12k, silver, full leather....**£23795**

18 68 MERCEDES C200 AMG Line Premium 2dr Coupe 9G-Tronic Automatic, Mercedes warranty until Oct 2021, widescreen nav, rev cam, 9k, grey, half leather....**£25995**

18 68 MERCEDES C200 AMG Line Premium 5dr Estate 9G-Tronic Automatic, Mercedes warranty Oct 2021, sat nav, reverse camera, dab, usb, 8k, choice, half-leather **£22995**

14 64 MERCEDES C220 D BlueTEC AMG Line Premium Plus 4dr Automatic, pan roof, sat nav, 21k, silver, full leather **£17995**

17 17 MERCEDES C220d AMG Line 2dr Convertible Automatic, Mercedes warranty April 2020, sat nav, reverse camera, 5k, grey **£20995**

18 68 MERCEDES C220 D Sport 4dr 9G-Tronic Automatic, Mercedes warranty Oct 2021, sat nav, reverse camera, 10k, silver, full leather **£19995**

17 67 MERCEDES C250d AMG Line 2dr Convertible Automatic, sat nav, rev camera, 17k, blue, full leather....**£21495**

18 18 MERCEDES C250 D AMG Line Premium Plus 2dr Coupe Automatic, Mercedes warranty July 2021, pan roof, sat nav, reverse camera, 10k, grey....**£24995**

16 66 MERCEDES C300 AMG Line 2dr Convertible Automatic, sat nav, reverse camera, 18"alloys, 27k, blue, full leather....**£21495**

19 19 MERCEDES C300 D AMG Line Premium 2dr Coupe 9G-Tronic Automatic, Mercedes warranty April 2022, sat nav, reverse camera, only 1307 miles choice with half-leather **£28995**

15 65 MERCEDES C350e Sport Premium Plus 4dr Automatic, pan roof, sat nav, reverse camera, 41k, silver, full leather **£17995**

16 66 MERCEDES CLA180 Sport 4dr, cruise, 18"alloys, Bluetooth, 15k, silver....**£16795**

18 68 MERCEDES CLA180 AMG Line Edition 4dr, Mercedes warranty Oct 2021, sat nav, reverse camera, 6k, black, half-leather **£20495**

16 66 MERCEDES CLA200 D Sport 4dr, cruise, Bluetooth, aux, usb, 28k, red....**£15995**

16 66 MERCEDES CLA200 D AMG Line 4dr Coupe, cruise, Bluetooth, 19k, white **£18495**

17 67 MERCEDES CLA220 D AMG Line 5dr Estate Tip Automatic, Mercedes warranty Sept 2020, sat nav, privacy glass, cruise, red, half-leather **£17495**

17 67 MERCEDES E200 D SE 4dr 9G-Tronic Automatic, Mercedes warranty Oct 2020, sat nav, reverse camera, 17k, black, full leather **£19995**

17 17 MERCEDES E220 D AMG Line 2dr Coupe 9G-Tronic Automatic, Mercedes warranty Sept 2020, sat nav, 19"alloys, white, half-leather **£21995**

17 17 MERCEDES E220 D AMG Line 4dr 9G-Tronic Automatic, Mercedes warranty Aug 2020, sat nav, xenons, 20k, choice.....**£19995**

17 67 MERCEDES E220 D AMG Line 5dr Estate 9G-Tronic Automatic, Mercedes warranty Oct 2020, sat nav, reverse camera, 19"alloys, 13k, choice, half-leather **£20495**

17 67 MERCEDES E220 D AMG Line 4dr 9G-Tronic Automatic, Mercedes Warranty September 2020, sat nav, rev camera, 7k, choice, half leather....**£20495**

18 18 MERCEDES E220 D AMG Line Premium 2dr Coupe 9G-Tronic Automatic, Mercedes warranty July 2021, pan roof, sat nav, 20"alloys, 10k, grey, half-leather **£28995**

18 18 MERCEDES E220 D AMG Line 2dr Convertible Automatic, Mercedes warranty April 2021, sat nav, 20"alloys, reverse camera, 9k, black....**£26995**

18 68 MERCEDES E220 D AMG Line Premium 2dr Convertible 9G-Tronic Automatic, Mercedes warranty Nov 2021, sat nav, 19"alloys, reverse camera, 4k, white **£28995**

18 68 MERCEDES E220 D AMG Line Premium 2dr Coupe 9G-Tronic Automatic, Mercedes warranty Oct 2021, pan roof, sat nav, reverse camera, 20"alloys, 7k, choice, half-leather....**£29995**

14 64 MERCEDES E250 CDI AMG Line Premium Plus 4dr 7G-Tronic Automatic, pan roof, sat nav, reverse camera, white....**£14995**

18 18 MERCEDES E350 D 4Matic AMG Line Premium Plus 2dr Coupe 9G-Tronic Automatic, Mercedes warranty July 2021, pan roof, sat nav, 19"alloys, 5k, choice, half-leather....**£30995**

18 18 MERCEDES E350 D AMG Line Premium 5dr Estate 9G-Tronic Automatic, Mercedes July 2021, pan roof, sat nav, reverse camera, 20"alloys, 8k, silver, half-leather....**£26995**

18 18 MERCEDES E350 E AMG Line Premium 4dr 9G-Tronic Automatic, Mercedes warranty Aug 2021, sat nav, reverse camera, 19"alloys, 13k, blue, half-leather....**£28995**

16 66 MERCEDES GLC220d 4Matic Sport Premium 5dr 9G-Tronic Automatic, pan roof, sat nav, reverse camera, grey, full leather **£21995**

17 67 MERCEDES GLC 220d 4Matic AMG Line 5dr 9G-Tronic, Mercedes warranty Dec 2020, sat nav, reverse camera, 15k, silver, full leather....**£24795**

18 68 MERCEDES GLC220d 4Matic AMG Line Premium 5dr 9G-Tronic Auto, Mercedes Benz warranty Sep 2021, pan roof, sat nav, 20"alloys, 4k, choice, full leather....**£28995**

18 68 MERCEDES GLC220 D 4Matic AMG Line 5dr 9G-Tronic Automatic, Mercedes warranty Oct 2021, night pack, 20"alloys, sat nav, reverse camera, 4k, choice **£27995**

17 67 MERCEDES GLC250 D 4Matic AMG Line 5dr 9G-Tronic Automatic, Mercedes warranty Dec 2020, sat nav, 20"alloys, 15k, black, full leather....**£26995**

18 18 MERCEDES GLC250d 4Matic AMG Line Premium 5dr 9G-Tronic Automatic, Mercedes April 2021, pan roof, sat nav, 20"alloys, 13k, white, full leather....**£28995**

18 18 MERCEDES GLS350 D 4Matic AMG Line 5dr 9G-Tronic Automatic 7-Seater, Mercedes warranty Aug 2021, night pack, Harman kardon, sat nav, pan roof, 13k, white, full leather **£44995**

18 18 MERCEDES GLC250d 4Matic AMG Line Premium 5dr 9G-Tronic Automatic, pan roof, sat nav, 20"alloys, 13k, full leather

£28995 NO BUYERS FEES

17 67 MERCEDES E220 D AMG Line 4dr 9G-Tronic Automatic, sat nav, rev camera, 7k, choice, half leather

£20495 NO BUYERS FEES

19 19 MERCEDES C300 D AMG Line Premium 2dr Coupe 9G-Tronic Automatic, sat nav, reverse camera, only 1307 miles with half-leather

£28995 NO BUYERS FEES

17 17 MERCEDES A160 AMG Line 5dr Auto, Mercedes warranty July 2020, night package, rev camera, 26k, white, half leather

£16495 NO BUYERS FEES

18 18 MERCEDES E350 D AMG Line Premium 5dr Estate 9G-Tronic Automatic, pan roof, sat nav, reverse camera, 20"alloys, 8k, half-leather

£26995 NO BUYERS FEES

18 68 MERCEDES C200 AMG Line Premium 5dr Estate 9G-Tronic Automatic, sat nav, reverse camera, dab, usb, 8k, choice, half-leather

£22995 NO BUYERS FEES

18 18 MERCEDES A180 D Sport Executive 5dr Automatic, Mercedes warranty Aug 2021, sat nav, cruise, dab, 9k, choice

£18495 NO BUYERS FEES

15 15 MERCEDES A220 CDI AMG Sport 5dr Automatic, night pack, pan roof, sat nav, silver, full leather

£21495 NO BUYERS FEES

14 64 MERCEDES C220 D BlueTEC AMG Line Premium Plus 4dr Automatic, pan roof, sat nav, 21k, silver, full leather

£17995 NO BUYERS FEES

18 68 MERCEDES CLA180 AMG Line Edition 4dr, sat nav, reverse camera, 6k, black, half-leather

£20495 NO BUYERS FEES

16 66 MERCEDES C43 4Matic Premium 2dr Coupe Automatic, pan roof, sat nav, reverse camera, cruise, 22k, white, half-leather

£29995 NO BUYERS FEES

17 67 MERCEDES GLC 220d 4Matic AMG Line 5dr 9G-Tronic, sat nav, reverse camera, 15k, silver, full leather

£24795 NO BUYERS FEES

17 67 MERCEDES E220 D AMG Line 5dr Estate 9G-Tronic Automatic, sat nav, reverse camera, 19"alloys, 13k, choice, half-leather

£20495 NO BUYERS FEES

18 18 MERCEDES GLS350 D 4Matic AMG Line 5dr 9G-Tronic Automatic 7-Seater, night pack, Harman kardon, sat nav, pan roof, 13k, full leather

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14 SKODA SUPERB 2.0 TDi Elegance CR (170) in Cappuccino beige, 48,000 miles, Sat Nav, leather seats **Reduced £8,995**
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15 VW JETTA 1.4TSi SE in met blue, 25,000 miles, 1 owner **£8,995**
64 VOLKSWAGEN PASSAT EXEC STYLE 2.0 TDI in black, 53,000 miles, FSH, black leather....**£8,495**
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63 RENAULT CLIO 1.2 GT LINE AUTOMATIC in met black, 36,000 miles, sat nav etc ....**Reduced to £6,995**
13 HONDA CIVIC I-VTEC ES-T 1.8cc in Woodland Green, 38,000 miles, Sat Nav, folding mirrors....**£7,695**
16 FIAT 500 LOUNGE 1.2 in white, 9,000 miles, glass roof, sat nav **£7,495**
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66 KIA PICANTO 1.0 SE 5dr in black, 26,000 miles, 1 owner **£6,495**
65 SEAT IBIZA 14 TOCA 3dr in red, 16,000 miles, with Sat Nav **£6,495**
64 VW POLO 1.4 TDi SE 5dr in white, 59,000 miles, fantastic MPG **£6,495**
14 PEUGEOT 208 XY E-HDI 1.6 Diesel 3-door in black, 37,000 miles, half lather, pan roof **£6,495**
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64 VAUXHALL CORSA LTD EDITION 1.4cc In red, 33,000 miles, DAB radio, bluetooth **£5,995**
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12 KIA SPORTAGE CRDi KX-2 AWD in bronze 112,000 miles with leather and pan-roof....**£5,995**
10 MINI COOPER S 1.6 CONVERTABLE in cream white with chilli pack, leather etc, low mileage, high spec **£5,995**
14 SKODA RAPID SPACEBACK 1.2 ELEGANCE in race blue 24,000 miles F.S.H. **£5,995**
11 SEAT LEON 2.0 TDi FR Auto 5dr in track grey, 76,000 miles ....**Reduced by £500 to £5,495**
14 SKODA RAPID SPACEBACK 1.6 TDI Elegance In Race blue, 67,000 miles, pan roof, sat nav **£5,495**
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15 SUZUKI SWIFT 12 SZ3 5 dr in white 41,000 miles low running costs **£5495**
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64 HYUNDAI i20 Classic 1.2 5dr In red, 35,000 miles, £30 road tax **£4,995**
63 RENAULT CLIO 1.5 DCi Energy 5dr in yellow, 62,000 miles, Free road tax **£4,995**
13 FIAT 500 1.2 POP CONVERTIBLE in yellow, 48,000 miles, £30 road tax....**£4,995**
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15 RANGE ROVER SPORT 3.0 TDV6 HSE AUTO
Aruba Gold with tan leather, 37,000 miles, pan roof, etc & service plan
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49,000 miles, too many extras to list, fantastic value
£32,995

65 VAUXHALL MOKKA EXCLUSIVE TURBO 1.4cc
In electric blue, 44,000 miles, 1 owner, P/S
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In white 50,000 miles, leather/suede seats, Bose sound
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Charity competition offers cash prize for all you Six Nations rugby experts

FOR the sixth year, Cowbridge Rotary Club is running its popular competition based on your skill at predicting the results of the 2020 Guinness Six Nations rugby matches in February and March.

The Rotary club is very grateful to The Glamorgan GEM for supporting this charity project by publicising the competition, printing the entry form and providing a collection point for entries.

The entry form is also a handy list of dates and times for all the matches.

Entry is only £1 with a £100 prize for the best overall prediction of the results of all 15 matches (home win, away win or draw).

The surplus will be allocated to the charity account of Cowbridge Rotary Club.

Anyone can enter wherever they live, and as many times as they wish.

Additional forms can be obtained by:

Collection from The GEM Offices, Eastgate, Cowbridge or reception at the Bear Hotel.

To request an entry form, email cowbridge.rotary@yahoo.co.uk

Entry forms together with £1 entry fee should be delivered either to the Bear Hotel reception or Cowbridge GEM offices, Eastgate and must arrive by kick-off on February 1.

Cowbridge Rotary Club delivers a number of services to the local community, including: Support to Dementia Friendly Cowbridge; assistance with transport; school reading; Stroke Awareness Day; youth competitions; monthly entertainment at Longmeadow Court, Cowbridge.

The club's charity funds are used in many ways, including donations to major national charities including Worldwide Polio eradication; survival boxes to international disasters; water supply to four schools in Uganda and Cowbridge's own Gateway Monday Club

This year's president's charities are:

• Hafal – A Welsh mental health charity supporting those affected by serious mental illness in Wales.

• Amelia Trust Farm: An educative countryside sanctuary for all to enjoy and which supports disadvantaged and vulnerable people.

If you would like to know more about the work of Cowbridge Rotary Club or are interested in joining, please contact the membership chairman, Steve Pearce on 01446 772178.

Cowbridge Rotary with the support of:- The Glamorgan GEM

2020 Six Nations Competition £100 First Prize

Only £1 per sheet. Proceeds to Rotary Club Charity Account

Please circle the team you predict will win or circle "Draw" for a tie.

Points awarded: **Correct winning team 1 Point** **Draw 3 Points**

The winner will be the entry with the highest number of points.

In the event of a tie, the closest to the total number of tries scored will decide the winner.

Date	KO GMT	Home	Away		
1st February	2.15 pm	Wales	v	Italy	Draw
1st February	4.45 pm	Ireland	v	Scotland	Draw
2nd February	3.00 pm	France	v	England	Draw
8th February	2.15 pm	Ireland	v	Wales	Draw
8th February	4.45 pm	Scotland	v	England	Draw
9th February	3.00 pm	France	v	Italy	Draw
22nd February	2.15 pm	Italy	v	Scotland	Draw
22nd February	4.45 pm	Wales	v	France	Draw
23rd February	3.00 pm	England	v	Ireland	Draw
7th March	2.15 pm	Ireland	v	Italy	Draw
7th March	4.45 pm	England	v	Wales	Draw
8th March	3.00 pm	Scotland	v	France	Draw
14th March	2.15 pm	Wales	v	Scotland	Draw
14th March	4.45 pm	Italy	v	England	Draw
14th March	8.00 pm	France	v	Ireland	Draw

Tie Breaker:- Prediction of the **total** number of **TRIES** scored in the tournament =_____

Name:_____ **IMPORTANT – Please make your prediction**

Tel. No.:_____ Email:_____ *(optional)*

Submit completed forms with entry money in an envelope **before 1st February** to:-

Boxes at the Bear Hotel or Gem Offices, Cowbridge. Or hand to any Cowbridge Rotarian.

Or to:- Andrew Lane, 11, Llanquian Close, Cowbridge CF71 7HQ

For additional forms, email: cowbridge.rotary@yahoo.co.uk

DON'T FORGET TO KEEP A COPY OF YOUR ENTRY

Rubbers round-up! Latest results from local Bridge clubs

Porthcawl Bridge Club

TO bring the festive season to a close, the club held its New Year's party, to which members brought their surplus Christmas fare, with the club providing the wine. Thanks to all who contributed.

Recent results at the club:

December 28 – First, Tony Haworth and John Beard; second, Liam Sheridan and Glenda Roberts.

January 2 – First, David Rance and Alwyn Hill; second, Tony Haworth and Keith Davison.

January 4 New Year's Party – First, Trish Saunders and Janet Richards; second, Vida Halford and Glyn Williams.

January 9 – First, Keith Davison and Tony Haworth; second, Trish Saunders and Janet Richards.

The club meets twice a week at the Awel-y-Mor centre Thursdays (6.45pm – 9.45pm); Saturdays (3.15pm - 6.15pm) - visitors welcome at any time. Call our secretary Trish on 01656 785794.

TH

Bridgend Bridge Club

LATEST results are as follow:

January 8: First, Steve Burgoyne and Linda Pinnock; second, Norma and David Newman; third, Simon Richards and Tony Disley. The winners on handicap were Norma and David Newman.

January 9: First, Geoff and Christine Tinkler; second Mike Williams and Gareth Jenkins; third, Vida Halford and Glyn Williams. The winners on handicap were Geoff and Christine Tinkler.

January 10: First, Vida Halford and Glyn Williams; second Simon and Debbie Richards; third, Dave and Debbie Lea. The winners on handicap were Vida Halford and Glyn Williams.

Regular club nights take place at 7pm on Wednesday and Friday evenings at Nolton Church Hall. On Thursday afternoons at 1:45pm there is a gentle bridge session when help is available with the bidding.

All sessions are played in a friendly manner, visitors and new members are always welcome. For more information call Steve Burgoyne on 01656 661968 or email Steve at steve@steveburgoyne.plus.com.

GJ

Vale of Glamorgan Football League – latest scores

HOLTON Road took full advantage of leaders AFC Rhoose's game with Cadoxton Imps falling foul to the weather, by closing the gap at the top to just one point with a 5-2 win over Tynewydd.

Despite coming back from two goals down, Tynny succumbed to their first defeat in four, Dan Morgan notched four goals for Holton Road with Ryan Hales getting the other. Holton Road now sit one point behind Rhoose with two games in hand.

St Athan moved back up to third with a hard fought 3-1 win over Cogan Coronation, their first win in three.

Island Marine went fourth with a 2-1 win at Cwrt Y Vil against Penarth Town. Marine have three games in hand on the league leaders and they are right in this title race.

Cardiff Airport picked up their first league win after seven straight defeats, and they did in some style with a 4-0 victory over Cowbridge Town. The result moves Airport up spot to ninth.

In Division One, it was was a great day for leaders AFC Rhoose B and they didn't even play. Barry Vikings (BV) lost ground on the leaders as they slipped to their first loss in nine league games with Rhoose Social coming out victorious 2-1.

Further good news for Rhoose B was that Cadoxton Barry were held to a thrilling 4-4 draw away at Island Marine. Both results means Rhoose B are now seven points ahead of BV and 11 ahead of Caddy Barry, having played a game more than BV and two more than Caddy Barry.

Barry Athletic B opened up their year with a 3-1 win over Holton Road B and moved to seventh in the league. Cwm Talwg moved ninth with a thumping 7-0 win over Vale Madrid at Burnham Avenue, making it two successive wins to start the year.

Finally, SP Billy continued their perfect start to 2020 with a second straight win, they came out 4-2 winners over St Athan B.

HD

St Mary's Golf Club seniors' good form in bad weather

WITH the course remaining in a very soggy and slippery condition, St Mary's Senior Section elected to play both of their weekly competitions over a shortened course of just 12 holes.

For their first outing, 27 of their number teed off in an individual Stableford competition. Against a nominal par of 24 points for 12 holes, some remarkable results were recorded which belied the very difficult scoring conditions.

On most days, a three-better-than-par score of 27 points would likely be sufficient for victory but on this occasion it only secured third place for Bryant Thomas.

Jon Paton was second with 29, leaving in-form Alun Powell to claim the win with a remarkable 31 points.

Two days later, Trefor Jones headed the leaderboard with a rather more sensible score of 21 points. Mike Tayler was runner-up, two back on 19. Owen Maund completed the placings on 18.

NL

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Send your match reports, news and other items of interest to: sport@glamorgan-gem.co.uk

Cowbridge are pipped in the Abercynon gloom

LAST Saturday Cowbridge RFC Firsts headed up the A470 to Abercynon – an important game for both sides as Abercynon were two places ahead with just three points separating the sides.

Cowbridge kicked off into the wind on a wet, slippery pitch and with sheets of rain drifting across the home side were soon in the lead as Cowbridge were penalised in front of the posts for holding.

Despite the conditions both sides were prepared to run the ball. After 15 minutes a great lineout take by Aaron Bowman was driven on by the pack and flanker Ellis Reed crashed over the line, with Tom Hannah adding the extras.

It was pretty much stalemate for the next 20 minutes, although Cowbridge seemed to have the upper hand with the back row of Richie Howson, Dan Holder and Reed making inroads, and the front row of Craig Boxall, Tom Higgins and young Jarad Williams (who had an outstanding game) more than holding their own.

However,an Abercynon penalty, with three minutes of normal time left brought them within one point. Then, in what seemed like endless extra time, Abercynon ran from a scrum 15 metres out and their No 12 ghosted over under the posts for a converted try.

Half time: Abercynon 13, Cowbridge 7.

As the wind calmed down, Cowbridge started the second half well with scrum half Hywel Williams and Holder combining to take play into the opposition half. A clever kick from No 10 Gaz Williams-Davies and a great chase by wing Adam Dix resulted in a Cowbridge penalty but the boys were unable to capitalise.

On came Sam Richards to replace the impressive Jarad Williams but despite Cowbridge dominance, it was the home side who were next on the scoreboard with a well-taken penalty. Not to be outdone, within three minutes a penalty 40 metres out was expertly stroked over by Sam Richards.

From the kick off, breaks from Tom James, Rhydian Williams and Alex Guard, followed by a penalty, gave Cowbridge a lineout in the 22 and from a great take by captain Ross Gibbon, Howson drove to the line – only to be held up a metre out.

In a frantic final few minutes Cowbridge brought on Jamie Bennet, Zac Summerhayes and Jordan Robbins but despite great pressure, they were unable to cross the whitewash for victory

Final score: Abercynon 16, Cowbridge 10.

Great credit goes to both sides for playing an open, exciting game in such conditions. Abercynon's speedy backs posed quite a threat but the Cowbridge defence was solid and there were plenty of opportunities which the team couldn't quite take. So,a losing bonus point.

Next week, it's Gilfach Goch at home followed by Cilfynydd away on January 25. There's a break of two weeks for the Italy and Ireland games before we're at home against Llantwit Fardre on February 15.

RV/RK

A battle of the three-pointers as teams struggle in the gale

THE Blood and Blacks of Llantwit Major RFC will have conflicting views on this game as they surely will be disappointed they did not win, mightily relieved they did not lose, but just as gutted it was a draw.

No one gets excited about a draw but for a game that was try-less this was an entertaining contest, possibly more from the rugby purists' point of view, but intriguing all the same.

It seldom broke from a plodding pace, as both sides played structured, slow rugby, kicking for territory and content to play one-out rugby more often than not.

Both Llantwit and Wattstown possess exceptional defences, so with a rain-soaked arena and a gale blowing it was no surprise that this game was played out in the main between the two 10-metre lines with no quarter given.

The deadlock was broken in the first half with three penalty kicks awarded to the visitors which outside half Loz Howley slotted over.

So, 9–0 up at half time and beginning to squeeze the Wattstown pack in the scrummage, the message at half time was for the Llantonians to up the pace of the game further and start managing the ball more effectively, especially in retention.

But whether it was because of the gale blowing, this message was certainly not heeded as Llantwit spent the second half being drawn more and more into a 10-man rugby game which suited the home side and the conditions.

Wattstown have a forward pack crafted to win with physicality and muscle up front, and they were soon clawing the points back, first with two penalty kicks and then as the game was heading for another three-point win for Llantwi, the home side outside half,on a rare venture into the Llantwit 22, struck a beauty of drop goal against the wind to level the scores.

Llantwit did have one last chance to take the spoils as they were awarded a penalty but it wasn't far inside the Wattstown half and at an awkward angle. Howley's kick looked to be heading over but just fell agonisingly short.

Despite the home side having more possession in this game a stalemate was probably the right result on a day when both sides had their moments but neither could conjure the sort of quality required to break the deadlock, with neither side ever looking like scoring a try.

Man of the match was young Ethan White who was making his debut for the first team at full back. At only 18 years he showed great maturity and was tested several times on his catching and covering, which he dealt with admirably. Further mention should go to prop Kyle Paylor who had a solid game in the scrum and put a big shift in with his defensive tackling around the ruck area.

Llantwit will be despondent this week as this was the first game they have dropped points in their season. There were some pluses however – the scrum and line out went well and the defensive display could not be faulted. They just seem to have hit a rut at the moment and need to get their zip back as the chasing teams will certainly have noticed and will be upping the pressure from here on in.

This week we welcome another mid table opponent in Gwernyfed, from Powys to the Recreation Ground. Kick off is at 2:30pm.

AH

Barry's determined resistance is overcome in injury time

SADLY, 90 minutes of plucky resistance was not enough for Barry Town on Saturday in the JD Cymru Premier, as Gavin Chesterfield's sown-up side succumbed to last-minute misery in Connah's Quay.

Having stubbornly held out for so long against Andy Morrison's second-placed Nomads, a 90th-minute corner in exceptional high winds bamboozled the bruised Barry backline, allowing Jamie Insall to scruffily force the ball over the goal line and break the visitors' hearts.

It was a bitter pill to swallow for a worn-down Town defence and especially for Barry goalkeeper Mike Lewis, who had done well to make the initial save, having denied both Michael Bakare and George Horan earlier.

Despite thrashing Barry 4-0 at Jenner Park in November, the Nomads had been unable to forge a breakthrough at Deeside Stadium, with Priestley Farquarson's overhead kick chalked off for offside.

However, Insall's goal changed all that and, with Barry left pushing for the most dramatic of equalisers, they soon fell victim to a stoppage-time sucker punch – Declan Poole belting the ball beyond Lewis after a wind-assisted Connah's Quay breakaway, after the elements had wreaked havoc with Luke Cummings' attempt at an attacking long throw at goal.

Chesterfield's team will now close out phase one of their league campaign with a Saturday evening showdown with Carmarthen Town; a team Barry have beaten in each of their last eight encounters.

Kick-off at Jenner Park is at 5.15pm, in line with the remainder of the final round of phase one fixtures.

Meanwhile, Barry manager Chesterfield has moved to strengthen his depleted squad with the recruitment of former Cardiff City, York City and Hereford midfielder Theo Wharton.

The son of former Cwmbran Town boss Sean Wharton, Theo represented Wales at under-17, under-19 and under-21 level, before switching his allegiance to St Kitts and Nevis, the homeland of his grandparents.

The 25-year old has made 15 appearances for the Caribbean nation, featuring against the likes of Canada and Jamaica and scoring twice in a CONCACAF Nations League qualifier against St Martins.

ABOVE: Gavin Chesterfield and Theo Wharton put pen to paper.

Chesterfield commented: "It's no secret that we've missed elements of control in midfield, particularly due to losing Troy (Greening) and Robbie (Patten) through injury".

"Theo is an exciting player who has a good pedigree and I feel we will be a really good fit for each other. He's been training with the squad for the last month and has integrated very well".

Wharton's arrival will also help to fill the hole left by fellow midfielder and free-kick specialist Sion Spence, who has now returned to Neil Harris' Cardiff City following a successful four-month loan.

The 19-year old, who returned to action in Cardiff under-23s' 2-1 win over Colchester United on Monday, made 13 senior appearances for Barry, most notably setting up Kayne McLaggon's winner at Airbus in September and Keyon Reffell's equaliser in Bala the following month, while scoring himself in the 3-2 win over Newtown at Latham Park.

Spence's swansong in Barry colours came in Boxing Day's 1-1 draw with Cardiff Met.

Fellow Bluebird George Ratcliffe looks poised to remain at Jenner Park for the remainder of the 2019-20 programme, despite the goalkeeper not featuring since December's defeat to TNS.

Report by Ashley Cox

Cowbridge Darts League latest round up

ON January 7, the Farmers Arms hosted the final of the Great Western Cup between the Red Lion Inn and the Edmondes B.

The Edmondes B won the final 3-0; however, the match was much closer than the score suggests.

Present league standings, after eight weeks, are: Edmondes B (103 points), Highwayman Inn (93), Victoria Inn (88), Farmers Arms (73), Hairy Farmers (69), Edmondes C (64), Edmondes A (60), Town Hall Criers (57) and Red Lion Inn (46).

On January 21, the Victoria Inn will be hosting the early rounds of the Commemorative Cup Competition. This is a knockout competition involving mixed teams of three players.

All matches start at 8.15pm and spectators are welcome. For further information, email Paul at cowbridgedarts@gmail.com; up-to-date information can be found at www.darts.apsn.co.uk.

Please note the league is very keen to grow and have more teams next season, so anyone looking at putting a team together or landlords keen to host a darts team please get in touch.

PJT